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Maoist Vikram Gowda killed in encounter near Hebri in Udupi district

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

Vikram Gowda

Vikram Gowda, a key Maoist leader from Karnataka, was killed in an alleged exchange of fire with the Anti-Naxal Force (ANF) at Peetabailu village near Hebri in Udupi district on Monday night. This marks the first killing of a Maoist leader in an encounter in the State since 2012.

After a lull, there have been reports of Maoist cadre being spotted in the Malnad region since March this year. Vikram, 44, was the most prominent member of the group active in the State and had been on the police's wanted list for 22 years. A member of the Malekudiya tribal community, he went underground in 2002 to join the armed Maoist movement.

According to sources, ANF personnel recovered a 9-mm carbine machine gun allegedly used by Vikram during the encounter. None of the ANF personnel sustained injuries. Home Minister G. Parameshwara said while Vikram was killed, three others were missing. He said the police were alerted of Maoist activities last week, and combing was intensified after two Maoists, identified as Raju and Lata, were seen in the region. "The Maoists opened fire on seeing the police and an encounter ensued," he said.

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Maharashtra set to vote today in a single phase

Polling will be held for 288 Assembly seats in the State, along with 38 remaining Jharkhand seats; results will come out on Nov. 23; enforcement agencies report seizures worth over ₹1,000 crore

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Assembly elections in 288 constituencies across Maharashtra and for 38 seats in the final phase in Jharkhand will be held on Wednesday.

Votes will be counted on November 23.

In Maharashtra, where the Mahayuti alliance aims to retain power, the BJP is contesting 149 seats, the Chief Minister Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena 81, and Ajit Pawar's Nationalist Congress Party 59.

On the Opposition front, the Congress has fielded 101 candidates, Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena (UBT) 95, and the Sharad Pawar-led NCP (SP) 86. The BSP is contesting 237 and AIMIM 17 seats.

The people's choice

Assembly elections will be held today for all seats in Maharashtra, and 38 constituencies in the final phase in Jharkhand. Bypolls will also be held in 15 Assembly constituencies across four States and a Lok Sabha seat in Maharashtra

Poll prep: A polling official in Mumbai arranges election material on the eve of the Maharashtra Assembly polls

State	Type	Seats
Maharashtra	Assembly	288
	Lok Sabha	1
Jharkhand	Assembly	38
Uttarakhand	Assembly	1
Kerala	Assembly	1
Punjab	Assembly	4
Uttar Pradesh	Assembly	9

■ *14 seats that were to hold polls on Nov. 13 were postponed due to requests*

Source: ECI

In Jharkhand, where the ruling Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM)-led coalition is eyeing a repeat, the BJP is contesting 32 seats and the All Jharkhand Students Union (AJSU) six seats, whereas in the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance bloc, the JMM has fielded 20 candidates, the Congress 13, the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) four and the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) two candidates.

The JMM and the CPI (ML) will have a "friendly" contest in the Dhanwar Assembly constituency, while the Congress and the RJD will have a "friendly" fight in Chattarpur and Bishrampur constituencies.

On Monday, the Election Commission said that enforcement agencies had seized cash, liquor, drugs, freebies, and other inducements amounting to over ₹1,000 crore as part of the ongoing Assembly elections in Maharashtra, Jharkhand and byelections till now.

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Biren sends notice to 11 Manipur MLAs who skipped meet

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

N. Biren Singh

The Manipur Chief Minister's Office has served notices on 11 MLAs, including Ministers, for not attending a meeting convened by Chief Minister N. Biren Singh on Monday to discuss the law-and-order situation in the State.

The MLAs asked to explain their absence included Kshetrigao legislator Sheikh Noorul Hassan of the National People's Party (NPP), which withdrew support to the BJP-led government on Sunday.

The NPP, too, served show-cause notices on three of its seven MLAs – Mayanglambam Rameshwhar Singh (Kakching constituency), Thongam Shanti Singh (Moirang), and Irengbam Nalini Devi (Oinam) – for attending the meeting.

"Our Tamenglong MLA, Janghemlung Panmei, did not attend the meeting but someone faked his signature to show he was present," an Imphal Valley-based NPP leader told *The Hindu*.

Barring Mr. Hassan and Sapam Nishikanta Singh, an Independent MLA who represents the Keishamthong seat, all legislators served notices by the Chief Minister's Secretariat are BJP members.

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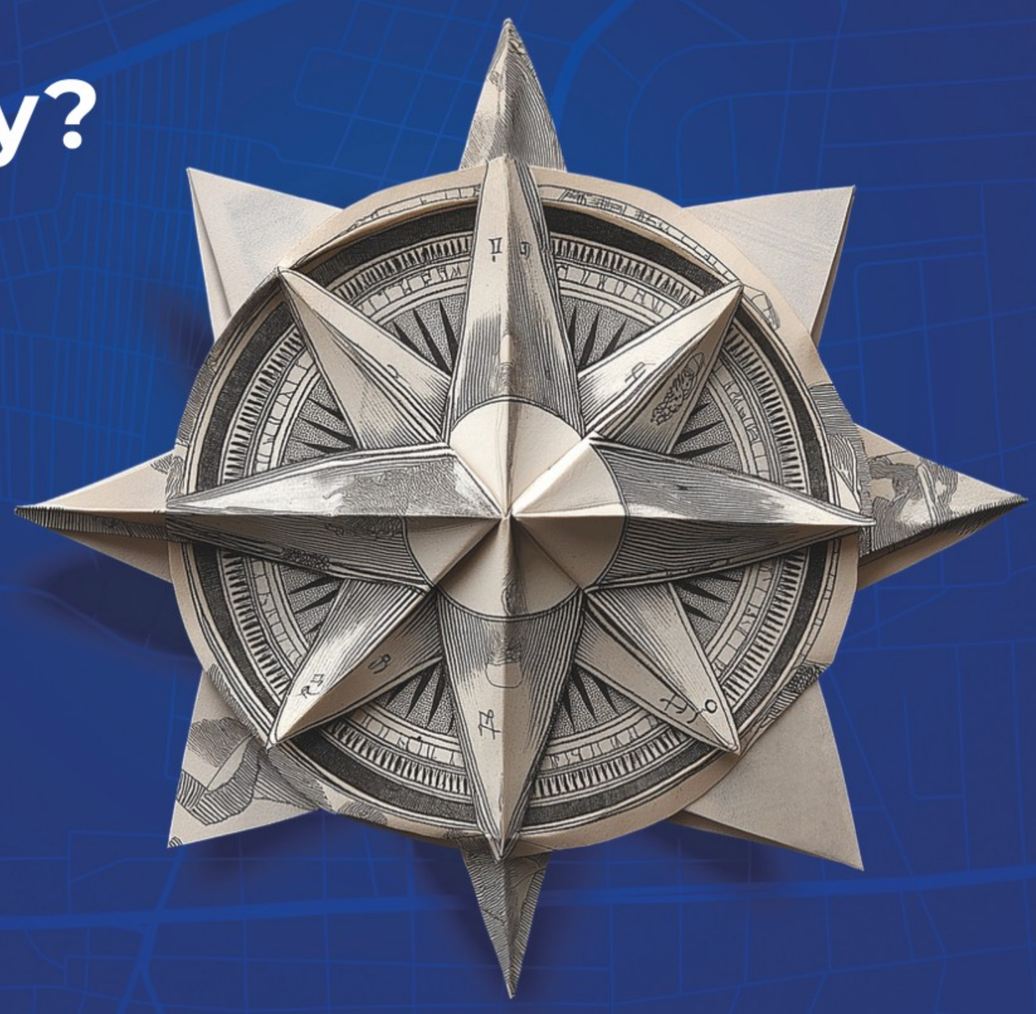

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Swapping AFL for kabaddi — Kennedy takes centre stage as PKL gears up for Melbourne sojourn

The 36-year-old will captain the Australian team, made up of retired AFL pros, in Pro Kabaddi Melbourne Raid — an exhibition evening to be held at the John Cain Arena in Australia's sporting capital on December 28

Lavanya L
CHENNAI

GETTY IMAGES

Two indigenous, extremely physical contact sports that rely on brute strength and speed – and yet they are worlds apart, literally.

Kabaddi and Aussie rules football enthral fans similarly but have some stark differences.

The former, popular in India, is played on a small rectangular mat (13m x 10m dimensions) and the players' bodies are the only tools for scoring points. The latter, played Down Under, takes place in a lush green field about 10 times bigger and uses a ball that becomes the centre of attention.

With this in mind, imagine a 6ft 1 inch Aussie rules veteran deciding to take up kabaddi with an exhibition match scheduled in a little over a month against players who have played the sport all their lives.

This is exactly what retired Australian Football League (AFL) legend Joshua Kennedy has pencilled into his schedule.

A third-generation Aussie Rules player, Kennedy enjoyed a glorious career in the sport, leading his club Sydney Swans to the AFL Premiership in 2012. He is a three-time member of the All-Australian team (2012, 2014, 2016). Kennedy is also a three-time Bob Skilton Medal awardee and won the Brett Kirk Medal and Peter Badcoe VC medal, both in 2012.

His career spanned 16 seasons and 290 games and he called time on his professional run in the sport in 2022 after a hamstring injury took him out for the season. He was 34 then.

Two years later, Kennedy finds himself on Indian shores for the first time in his life, with a new sport on the table to pick up. He will captain the Australian 'kabaddi' team, made up of retired AFL pros, in Pro Kabaddi Melbourne Raid – an exhibition kabaddi evening to be held at the John Cain Arena in Australia's sporting capital on December 28.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT & GETTY IMAGES

First impression

Kennedy got four days in India to get a crash course on the game. He was at every game over a weekend of fixtures, trying to understand its nuances and rules.

"My first impression is just that it's super exciting, intense, fast-paced, and very physical," Kennedy told *The Hindu* with a sheepish smile.

"After the first night, I thought I had it all figured out. And then on night two, I realised I definitely didn't and learned a few different rules. It's been a fantastic experience these last couple of days," he added.

Australia is not exactly a stranger to the ancient Indian sport of kabaddi, having participated in the 2016 World Cup. The nation was in the same pool as India and won one out of its five games (the lone win was a 68-45 triumph over Argentina). That team was led by former AFL player Campbell Brown who is all set to coach the Australian side for the Melbourne Raid.

"I was introduced to the sport by Camp Brown. To be completely honest, I hadn't heard of kabaddi prior to that and I didn't think too much of it until it was reintroduced to me, a few months ago when the idea of playing a game, an exhibition match later this year in Melbourne came up. Having seen a bit of the game, I thought, why not?" Kennedy remembered.

"I've shown a few family members and friends the sport and it's funny. The first response is, 'Gee, this looks fun.' The next response is, 'You're going to get killed.' All of a sudden, the physicality hits you," he said.

"But we've all played some form of it as children. Be it tag, tip and run, British Bulldog, there was always a tackling element to it. So I think everyone around the world has played some form of kabaddi one way or another. So it does have a nostalgic element for me too."

Big man in a small space

The 36-year-old hasn't just been watching. Among the activities planned for him was a clinic with Pro Kabaddi's technical director E. Prasad Rao (popularly called Kabaddi Rao). He also got to join the Jaipur Pink Panthers in a training session on the mat where Rao got to see Kennedy's technique and offer suggestions.

"It's still a work in progress. Being down on the mat... it's very intimidating. I went when one of the teams was training on Saturday. I went down and stood on the mat with them, sort of coming in and out. The defence is intimidating, particularly when you've just got a small space to work in. It's something I need to get used to.

" That said, the physicality, the contact, we've got that in our sport. The 360-degree awareness, the fact that you're getting attacked from anywhere is similar as well. The spatial element needs work, to know where the lines are, where you can and can't go, that's not natural for me and it needs work," he said.

Kennedy is yet to pick a department and, unsurprisingly, seems to be warming up to the charms of being an all-rounder. The Australian side, he reveals, is stacked with ex-Aussie rules footballers who have been retired for not more than two years. There's a combined experience of over 2000 games in that unit and he expects everyone to try and contribute in both departments.

GETTY IMAGES

Sporting fabric

The John Cain Arena, which hosts matches in the Australian Open besides hosting sports like basketball, netball, cycling, and ice hockey, is a five-minute walk away from the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

The venue will host kabaddi festivities after the action ends on day three of the Boxing Day Test between India and Australia in the Border-Gavaskar Series. A double-header featuring the Australian athletes vs an Indian VII will precede the main event – the Pro Kabaddi All Stars game between two PKL teams filled with Indian stars.

The day sees three sports, each with a faithful following in its respective country of origin, come together in Melbourne. Kabaddi, especially the entertainment product it has been turned into by the Pro Kabaddi League, will get its first official chance to woo Australian audiences outside the Indian diaspora. But between cricket and footy, which sport has the edge? Kennedy's response was a big smile before he sided with his sport.

"Cricket is played all year round. But there are certain times, for example, the Christmas period for us in December... The Boxing Day Test is massive. So there will be sold-out stadiums days in a row, which is pretty big. But generally speaking, certainly in Victoria and Melbourne, the Aussie rules.

"In South Australia, in fact, all over Australia, Aussie rules being our indigenous sport holds pride of place and often dominates a lot of the conversations, whether it's family dinners, at the office, in school, or wherever it may be. This is what makes your friends at school. So it's (competition between cricket and football) close. But, you know, my bias will say Aussie rules."

He'd love to have an opportunity to bring footy to India too.

"It'd be fantastic if that could happen. One thing I certainly don't underestimate is the power of sport to bring people together and cultures together. And I've dealt a little bit with AFL Aussie rules, and football in different communities. My wife is Colombian and I have done a bit (promoting the sport) over there.

"We've done a few clinics and seen Aussie rules teams come up there. It's a glass ceiling waiting to be shattered. For the first step to be Melbourne in Victoria, which is easily one of the world's best sporting cities, is a huge milestone. Who knows what will happen? I'd love to see an Aussie rules game played in India too," Kennedy said.

THE GIST

- A third-generation Aussie Rules player, Kennedy enjoyed a glorious career in the sport, leading his club Sydney Swans to the AFL Premiership in 2012
- Australia is not exactly a stranger to the ancient Indian sport of kabaddi, having participated in the 2016 World Cup
- The John Cain Arena, which hosts matches in the Australian Open besides hosting sports like basketball, netball, cycling, and ice hockey, is a five-minute walk away from the Melbourne Cricket Ground
- A double-header featuring the Australian athletes vs an Indian VII will precede the main event — the Pro Kabaddi All Stars game between two PKL teams filled with Indian stars

Karnataka to set up global innovation districts

Siddaramaiah made the announcement after inaugurating the 27th Bengaluru Tech Summit

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, Minister of Information Technology Priyank Kharge, Minister of Medical Education Sharan Prakash Patil, delegates and others during the inauguration of the Bengaluru Tech Summit at Palace Grounds on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Karnataka, which has unveiled a Global Capability Centre (GCC) policy, will set up global innovation districts in Bengaluru, Mysuru and Belagavi as a continued part of the GCC policy, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced on November 19.

"The Bengaluru innovation district will aid in establishing GCC. It will be part of the knowledge, health and innovation cities being planned. Being in close proximity to Kempegowda International Airport, the Bengaluru centre will help foster innovation and research," the Chief Minister said after the inauguration of the three-day 27th edition of Bengaluru Tech Summit 2024: Technology Unbound - Uniting Global Innovation, Creating Impact for the World.

The event is billed as the largest of its kind in Asia.

"The GCC will get its manpower from a large pool of engineering talent and AI professionals, which Karnataka boasts of in large numbers," he added. The Chief Minister also announced an Electronic Manufacturing Cluster at Kochanahalli to strengthen Karnataka's position in the global semiconductor industry. He said that a balanced regional development is taking place in the State with Fintech in Mangaluru, EVs and drone development in Dharwad, and a PCB cluster in Mysuru. While focusing on Bengaluru, the strength of the other regions is being harnessed. Between 2022 and 2023, Karnataka has seen an increase in start-ups by 18.2%. With 3,036 start-ups, Karnataka ranks first in the country and accounts for 8.7% of total start-ups in India, he added.

Deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar pointed out that Karnataka is ranked first in NITI Aayog's India Innovation Index while the State is India's largest chip designer and a key hub for machine tool manufacturing and chip design, with over 85 fabless chip design houses. "The State supplies 52% of India's biotech workforce. Karnataka is also a global leader in the Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming, Comics, and Extended Reality sectors, and by 2025, we will train 25,000 students, with nearly 70% of the workforce being creative professionals."

Infra push

Stating that the rapid growth of Bengaluru has brought with it many issues, he said, "We need to fix them before the city bursts at its seams. I will guarantee you that I will spare no effort in fixing Bengaluru. In a short time, we have launched many mega projects to improve ease of living and ease of business in Bengaluru. Tunnel project and Bengaluru Business Corridor (known as PRR earlier). The PRR project was gathering dust for more than a decade. We have kickstarted the project, and the work will start in six months. This project will solve traffic congestion in the city to a large extent. It will significantly help businesses on Outer Ring Road."

Minister for Information Technology & Biotechnology Priyank Kharge, MP and Commissioner for Start-ups and the Digital Economy, The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, Germany, were among those present.

Sriharsha Majety, CEO & Co-Founder of Swiggy, was recognised for building one of Karnataka's earliest and most inspiring start-ups. Texas Instruments India was honoured for its remarkable entry and its 40th year of presence in Bengaluru.

Five MoUs for skill training in IT sector signed at tech summit

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As part of the Nipuna Karnataka initiative, five strategic MoUs were exchanged with global tech giants Microsoft, Intel, Accenture, IBM, and the BFSI Consortium, with an aim to bolster collaboration and drive innovation. These MoUs aim to train 1,00,000 persons in the next year with a placement of 70% of the trained professionals.

The logo of Nipuna Karnataka which aims at enhancing the skills of local talent to improve their global competitiveness in emerging technologies was launched as part of Bengaluru Tech Summit 2024.

With Microsoft, GoK aims to train more than 10,000 persons annually in emerging technology with a focus on Deep tech, while Karnataka will be collaborating with Intel to train 20,000 persons annually in AI. Accenture will train 10,000 persons on emerging technology, like cyber security and quantum computing while IBM has committed to train 50,000 people on AI and Cloud services. The BFSI Consortium will train 10,000 persons in the banking and financial sector to ensure placement in the fintech sector.

A model of human body made using e-waste on display at the Bengaluru Tech Summit. PTI

The Bengaluru Data Report was launched at the event, while a Centre of Excellence on AI in Bengaluru to foster cutting-edge research and development was announced. The Centre is envisioned as India's premier accelerator for AI start-ups, spearheaded by the IIT Alumni Center Bangalore (IITACB) in partnership with the government of Karnataka. This initiative is designed to support the next generation of AI-driven innovations by providing start-ups with access to capital, high-quality mentorship, industry partnerships, and state-of-the-art technical resources.

A Start-up Springboard Programme designed to empower Karnataka's start-ups through three pillars – Investor Connect (linking start-ups with key investors and industry leaders), Mentor Connect (enabling invaluable guidance through mentor-mentee interactions), and Innoverse (providing infrastructure, plug-and-play facilities, and training to support prototype development and innovation for emerging entrepreneurs), was also announced. A note from IT and BT Minister Priyank Kharge's office said that BTS 2024 will feature a multi-stage conference across IT, Deep Tech & Trends, Biotech & Healthtech, Start-up Ecosystem, Global Innovation Alliance, India-USA Tech Conclave, and the newly introduced Electro-Semicon.

The event has participation from more than 50 countries and high-level delegations featuring government officials, industry leaders, and innovators, from over 15 countries. With over 700 exhibitors, the exhibition will showcase themed pavilions covering Biotech, Healthtech, Electro-Semicon, Spacetech, Telecom, Greentech, and several other areas, offering a unique opportunity for cross-industry insights.

The Circuit Stage, newly introduced in this edition, will focus on Electronic and Semicon, on semiconductor manufacturing, India's role and leadership in semiconductor, electronics scenario, and harnessing chip design talent.

BTS 2024 will act as the ultimate platform for start-ups to meet investors and scale their businesses. Having participants including 23 ideation stage start-ups, 142 early traction stage start-ups, 75 concept validation stage start-ups, and 82 growth stage start-ups, the summit will host a three-day Venture Connect Program. Drawing over 50 leading global investors, including family offices, angel investors, and venture capital firms from across the globe, the summit will bring a combined potential investment fund of more than $17.5 billion.

Push for social security benefits for platform, gig workers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Joint Committee of Trade Unions (JCTU), comprising eight central trade unions, has demanded that the Karnataka Platform-based Gig Workers Bill must ensure minimum wages, maternity leave and benefits such as provident funds, bonuses and gratuity for gig and platform workers.

Presenting a draft document listing out objections and suggestions to the bill, the union leaders, at a round table conference, demanded that the rights of the platform-based gig workers should be covered under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, Industrial Disputes Act, Minimum Wages Act, Maternity Benefits Act, Payment of Bonus Act and Payment of Gratuity Act.

"Informal workers constitute 93% of the 500 million workforce. But the central and State governments say they will introduce welfare schemes for them. There is a difference between statutory benefits and welfare schemes. Implementation of statutory benefits is mandatory, whereas welfare schemes can change from time to time," pointed out Babu Mathew, professor at NLSIU and former trade unionist.

Fair representation

The other demands of the trade unions included income security and statutory minimum wages, reasonable working conditions, including overtime wages for work beyond eight hours, and welfare fees, which would be a percentage of each transaction.

"There shall be charged, from an aggregator, a welfare fee known as the "Platform based Gig workers welfare fee", which shall be at such rate (per cent) of each transaction, not less than 1 per cent and not more than 3 per cent of the transaction cost paid by the consumer of the platform," read the draft document prepared by the unions.

Minimum wage question

Union representatives suggested that net earnings, and not gross wage, of the platform worker should be fixed as equal to the minimum wage.

Costs incurred by the worker, such as commission to the platforms, direct fuel costs, indirect maintenance costs, depreciation, taxes and so on, have to be accounted for, they pointed out.

Mr. Mathew argued that the platform workers should be given minimum wages of semi-skilled workers and not of unskilled workers.

Meenakshi Sundaram of CITU noted that the Bill should contain provisions to avoid unhealthy competition between platforms that put the health and lives of workers at risk. He also suggested additional allowance for risk taken by workers like delivery personnels.

The Karnataka government, which held 42 meetings regarding the Bill, did not hold a single meeting with any of the central trade unions, alleged Sathyananda of AITUC, who stressed the need for a tripartite mechanism.

BIAL awarded AAA rating, the highest on the credit rating scale

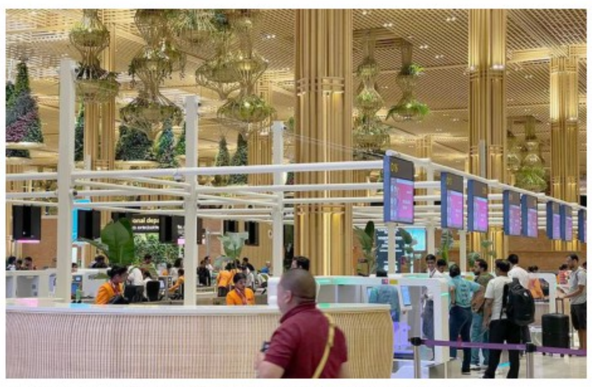
The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) has been awarded the AAA rating (Stable Outlook) by ICRA Ltd, India Ratings and Research Pvt Ltd, and Crisil Ratings Ltd. This rating, the highest in the credit rating scale, reflects a strong degree of safety in the timely servicing of financial obligations and minimal credit risk.

"This recognition highlights BIAL's solid market position as the third-largest airport in India and the largest in South India, with a passenger handling capacity of 51.5 million per annum," BIAL said.

Key credit strengths

Among the key strengths contributing to BIAL's rating are projections for passenger traffic at Kempegowda International Airport (KIA), expected to grow by 10-11% in FY2025, reaching 41-42 million passengers compared to 37.5 million in FY2024. Additionally, the extension of BIAL's concession agreement until 2068 provides significant financial flexibility through a long operational tail period.



A view of KIA's Terminal 2 in Bengaluru. K. MURALI KUMAR

The rating reflects a strong degree of safety in the timely servicing of financial obligations and minimal credit risk

"Projections for FY2025 indicate that BIAL's operating income is set to increase by 20%, and this growth is driven by the expansion of the airport, a steady increase in passenger numbers and higher aeronautical and non-aeronautical revenues. The strategic joint ownership by Fairfax Group (which holds a 64% stake), Siemens (10%), Airports Authority of India (13%), the Government of Karnataka (13%) further solidifies BIAL's financial and operational capabilities," BIAL said.

Bhaskar Anand Rao, Chief Financial Officer of Bangalore International Airport Limited, remarked, "We are honored to receive the AAA rating from ICRA, India Ratings and Research, and Crisil. This recognition reflects our robust business model and our commitment to sustainable growth. With regulated aeronautical revenues and our strategic investments in expanding capacity and enhancing the passenger experience, we are well-positioned for continued success. Our focus remains on delivering long-term value to all stakeholders while maintaining a solid financial foundation."

Investment plans

BIAL has ambitious plans to invest approximately ₹16,000 crores between FY2025 and FY2029, aiming to boost its capacity to handle 80 million passengers annually. Key projects include the expansion of Terminal 2, infrastructure upgrades, and other major initiatives.

"The AAA rating emphasises BIAL's operational scale, fueled by increasing passenger traffic, the launch of Terminal 2, and steady growth in revenues. This stable outlook underscores BIAL's potential for long-term growth, supported by strong financial flexibility and diverse income streams," BIAL said.

Cycle rally taken out in Mysuru

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

A cycle rally was organised by Odanadi Seva Samsthe, an NGO in Mysuru, on Monday, to instill a sense of environmental protection and concern among high school and college students.

The rally, which began from Mandakalli, saw the participants experience the serene and peaceful atmosphere before sunrise and develop a connection with nature.

Lake cleaned

The students rode to Maidanahalli lake on the outskirts of the city. They cleaned up the lake and its surroundings, a statement from Odanadi Seva Samsthe said.

Participation by locals

"Locals joined the initiative, discussing ways to preserve the lake's ecosystem and protect migratory birds, fish, and other aquatic life. Participants also planted trees that would provide shelter and food for wildlife," added the statement.

HC notice to Centre, State on plea opposing stray dog microchipping project

The petitioners have claimed that microchipping of around three lakh street dogs in Bengaluru city can manifest into adverse tissue response. FILE PHOTO

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday ordered issue of notice to the Centre, State and the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike on a PIL petition, which has questioned the legality of BBMP's project of microchipping stray dogs to keep track of vaccination and birth control data of such dogs.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice N.V. Anjaria and Justice K.V. Aravind passed the order on the petition filed by Save Our Animals Charitable Trust, Bengaluru, and Neveena Kamath, an environmental activist.

'No legal authority'

It has been contended in the petition that the BBMP Commissioner has no legal authority to approve implanting of microchips in street dogs as per the provisions of the Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023 framed under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960.

The petitioners have contended that microchipping is mandatory only for breeders when pups are sold by them under the provisions of PCA (Dog Breeding and Marketing Rules, 2017, and when the pups are sold by pet shops under PCA (Pet Shop) Rules.

The petitioners have claimed that microchipping of around three lakh street dogs in Bengaluru city can manifest into adverse tissue response, movement of chip within the body of the animal, interference of electromagnetic wave and rick of cancer as these stray dogs have no owner to take of their health needs after implanting microchips.

Ignoring representation

Pointing out that the BBMP has gone ahead with the pilot project of microchipping street dogs ignoring the representation submitted by the petitioners, who have studies the issues related to microchipping, and other animal activists, the petitioners have complained that the BBMP, which has utterly failed to effectively implement ABC programme, instead, has come with the unapproved mechanism of microchipping street dogs.

It has been contended in the petition that the request for proposal issued by the BBMP for microchipping project does not contain any provision on accountability of either the government authorities or the private agency, which would implant microchips, for the adverse consequences which the dogs will have to face after microchipping.

The BBMP has neither sought permission nor consulted the Central Monitoring and Coordination Committee set up under the ABC Rules for the matter related to policy intervention apart from not consulting the Central or the State Animal Welfare Boards.

The petitioners have also contended that the BBMP has never constituted a Local Authority ABC Monitoring Committee in the manner prescribed by the apex court.

Act fast to mitigate a disaster in Teesta Valley, groups urge PM, CMs

Two community-based organisations, Save The Hills and the Darjeeling Himalaya Initiative, said the Teesta river poses serious threats to both Sikkim and West Bengal each monsoon season. However, the two States have limited their responses to within their borders instead of approaching disasters at a landscape level

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

The Teesta Valley has only six months before the 2025 monsoon aggravates the damage wrought by the disastrous glacial lake outburst flood (GLOF) in October 2023, two community-based green Himalayan organisations have warned the government.

The 2023 GLOF and the subsequent NHPC, Ltd. power project dam breach claimed more than a hundred lives, disrupted livelihoods, and destroyed assets and critical military installations, apart from ecological devastation in its wake across Sikkim and West Bengal.

The two governments have allegedly been working in silos, concerned only about areas within their respective boundaries instead of treating it as a larger issue at a landscape level.

"With only six months remaining before the 2025 monsoon, there is an urgent need to implement both structural and non-structural mitigation measures throughout the Teesta Valley," a memorandum by the Kalimpong-based Praful Rao of 'Save The Hills' and Roshan Rai of the Darjeeling Himalaya Initiative (DHI) said on November 18. "The implementation of effective measures in Sikkim and West Bengal now can significantly reduce the impact of future floods."

A copy each was addressed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Sikkim Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang, and his West Bengal counterpart Mamata Banerjee. The memorandum bears the signatures of 290 citizens working to raise awareness about landslides in the Darjeeling-Sikkim Himalaya.

"Central assistance will be imperative because the scale and complexity of the problem cannot be tackled at the State level," they said.

A view of Teesta Bazaar in West Bengal, which has been sinking further into the ground since the glacial lake outburst flood in 2023. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

THE GIST

The Sikkim and West Bengal governments have allegedly been working in silos, concerned only about areas within their respective boundaries instead of treating it as a larger issue at a landscape level

Kalimpong-based Praful Rao of 'Save The Hills' and Roshan Rai of the Darjeeling Himalaya Initiative said the Teesta River poses serious threats to both Sikkim and West Bengal each monsoon season

They added that several areas along the Teesta River have been sinking since the 2023 disaster. Among the most vulnerable is Teesta Bazaar in West Bengal

Call for a joint committee

The duo lamented that the response from the State and Central authorities to the GLOF has been inadequate despite the scale of the disaster, especially for long-term rehabilitation and restorative interventions at the relief, infrastructure, and ecological levels.

They said the Teesta River poses serious threats to both Sikkim and West Bengal each monsoon season. The two States thus need to approach disasters at a landscape level instead of limiting their focus to within their respective boundaries.

"A Sikkim-West Bengal joint committee could address common issues and implement coordinated disaster management strategies that benefit both the States and areas beyond," Mr. Rao, also a member of the DHI, told *The Hindu*.

Mr. Rao and Mr. Rai suggested the formation of a task force of experts drawn from geo-hydrology, environmental science, engineering, and sociology to address the multiple challenges brought about by the GLOF. "This task force must develop a comprehensive action plan that includes technical, financial, and social solutions for restoring and fortifying the region," they said.

They cited the case of 65 families in the Teesta Valley, in the Kalimpong district of West Bengal, that were displaced by the GLOF-induced flash floods and continue to reside in relief camps.

"For these people who depended on the river for their survival, displacement has worsened their economic stability, and everyday existence becomes a struggle for survival. Prolonged uncertainty worsens their mental distress, highlighting the urgent need for targeted interventions to restore their houses and livelihoods," they said.

They added that several areas along the Teesta River have been sinking since the 2023 disaster. Among the most vulnerable is Teesta Bazaar in West Bengal.

"The NH10, the lifeline of Kalimpong and Sikkim, remains perilously unstable for much of the monsoon season and diversion of traffic via alternative routes adds avoidable burden on transport services, infrastructure as well as the communities along the route," they said.

"These vulnerabilities were exposed again almost throughout the 2024 monsoon season and have severely reduced the tourist traffic to the region impacting the economy of the Sikkim and Darjeeling Himalayas."

The 2023 GLOF and subsequent power project dam breach claimed more than a hundred lives, disrupted livelihoods, and destroyed assets and critical military installations in its wake across Sikkim and West Bengal

Stress on land-use planning

Mr. Rao and Mr. Rai suggested sustainable engineering solutions to protect low-lying areas from river overflow and re-channelising the Teesta River – disrupted by debris built up by the GLOF – to prevent further damage to urban areas and infrastructure. The NHPC's technical expertise can be instrumental in deepening, widening, and redirecting the river to safer channels, they added.

The duo underscored the need to repair and strengthen damaged roads and bridges that have cut off many communities, hindering both economic activity and disaster relief efforts.

They also suggested that the reinforcement of evacuation centres and relief camps with backup solar power to ensure they remain operational in the event of future emergencies.

The duo stressed land-use planning and zoning as "certain low-lying areas will remain high-risk zones even with structural protections" in place. "These areas should be designated for potential evacuation and resettlement of at-risk communities. Adequate compensation as decided by the expert group should be provided to affected victims and necessary support given to those relocating," they said.

"Non-structural mitigation measures such as early warning systems and communication networks are no less important," Mr Rao said.

"Installing automated flood early warning systems that deliver real-time alerts through sirens and mobile networks is crucial. Backup communication methods, such as ham radios and walkie-talkies operated by trained personnel, should also be implemented to ensure effective communication during emergencies," he said.

Other measures suggested included awareness and risk management campaigns to build capacities and resilience during disasters, post-disaster financial recovery support, and an aggressive afforestation programme to restore the valley's ecosystem, prevent soil erosion, and help regulate the river's flow.

BIG SHOT

A drone shot shows firefighters working to extinguish a wildfire at El Cajas National Park in Cuenca, Ecuador, on Tuesday. The country's government has declared a 60-day national emergency due to raging forest fires made worse by a severe drought. REUTERS

QUESTION CORNER

Trouble standing still

The base of a two wheeler is very narrow, hence any slight disturbance will push the line of action outside base area, leading to the vehicle becoming imbalanced. KSL

Q: Why is it difficult to balance a stationary two-wheeler?

A: Stationary objects experience only the gravitational force. Such objects can be balanced only when the line of action — the line connecting the centre of gravity of the object towards the earth — touches the ground at a point within the base of the object. If the base area is large, slight deviations due to external forces such as the wind will not push this point out of the base. So it is easy to balance such objects. In the case of a two wheeler, the base is very narrow, limited to the thin strip connecting the two points where the wheels touch the ground. Hence any slight disturbance will push the line of action outside the base area, leading to the vehicle becoming imbalanced.

When the two-wheeler is moving, the situation is entirely different. In addition to gravity there is another force exerted by the engine, acting in the forward direction.

The resultant of these two forces is still in the forward direction and thus the vehicle moves forward independent of where the line of action touches the ground. This is why it's easier to balance a moving vehicle.

For feedback and suggestions for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Actor held for firing in the air

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Chandra Layout police on Tuesday arrested Kannada television actor Thandaveshwar for firing in the air during a heated argument with director Bharat Navunda.

Based on the complaint, the police have registered an FIR against Thandaveshwar under Section 109 of Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita, 2023, for attempted murder and also under Arms Act, 1959, for deliberately using a weapon despite causing no danger. Thandaveshwar was later arrested and his licensed weapon seized for further investigations.

Heated argument

According to the police, the accused along with the producer visited Navunda's office to discuss about the movie project which was put on hold for a few months. Heated arguments ensued between them following which the accused pulled out the weapon and fired in the air. A part of the ceiling was damaged.

The probe revealed that Thandaveshwar had signed up for the movie *Devanampriya*, directed by Navunda, two years ago. However, the duo couldn't find a producer. Thandaveshwar offered to invest and spent ₹6 lakh. Recently, they found a Hassan-based producer who funded the movie but the shooting could not proceed.

Miffed by the development, the accused went to get an update and carried the weapon. This, according to the police, was a deliberate act.

Thandaveshwar, who hails from Hassan, has acted in a television serial and a Kannada movie.

IAF signs MoA with IISc, FSID

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Headquarter Maintenance Command of the Indian Air Force (IAF) entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and Foundation for Science Innovation and Development (FSID).

The MoA includes identifying problem areas of IAF in maintenance of equipment related to radar, aircraft, IT and communication platforms, and developing a roadmap for maintenance through R&D.

'Science of crash' campaign to deter speeding in State

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Transport Department on Tuesday launched a campaign titled "Motorcycle Reconstruction", an instructional-style public service announcement (PSA) explaining the "science of crash" to deter speeding and make roads safer.

Secretary, Transport Department N.V. Prasad launched the mass media campaign on Tuesday.

"The State police's annual report in 2023 attributes 93% (11,523) of all road fatalities and 91% (48,014) of all road injuries to speeding. The new campaign is an instructional-style PSA that explains the science of crash. The PSA shows two crash scenarios: one in which a speeding two-wheeler driver crashes with a car, sustaining severe injuries, and a second which shows how the driver could have avoided the crash by following the posted speed limit," Mr. Prasad said.

State-wide campaign

The Karnataka State Road Safety Authority (KSRSA) is implementing this campaign State-wide in Kannada and English, for a duration of one month on all major TV and radio channels, cinema theatres, hoardings and newspapers.

"The evaluation of the previous speeding campaign implemented in December 2023 revealed that 99% of campaign-aware respondents agreed that the likelihood of crashes increases with speeding. The Karnataka State Police and the Transport Department will conduct enhanced enforcement paired with the campaign to reinforce the campaign's messaging on speeding," a Transport Department official said.

APPOINTMENT

KBNU
KHAJA BANDANAWAZ UNIVERSITY
EDUCATING HUMANITY
(A Religious Minority University)

Notification No.12/2024 Date: 20.11.2024

RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION

The Khaja Bandanawaz University , Kalaburagi invites applications for the following positions.

REGISTRAR
FINANCE OFFICER
CONTROLLER OF EXAMINATIONS

Last date to apply is 10.12.2024

Please visit www.kbn.university for further details.

Registrar (i/c)

STATE HEALTH AGENCY (SHA)
(Under Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Kerala)
5th and 8th Floor, Artech Meenakshi Plaza,
Opposite Government Women and Children's Hospital Thycaud P.O.,
Thiruvananthapuram, 695 014, Phone: 0471-4063121, website: www.sha.kerala.gov.in

No: SHA/301/2024-MGR (HR) Dated: 15.11.2024

RECRUITMENT FOR THE POST OF

1. Joint Director (Medical)	-	MBBS with reg.
2. Manager (HNQA)	-	MBBS with reg.
3. Field Officer	-	B.Sc.(N) with reg.

On contract basis under State Health Agency, Thiruvananthapuram. Last date of application on **30.11.2024**. For more details log on to **www.sha.kerala.gov.in**. Applicants are requested to carefully read the full notification before applying.

Sd/- **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

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21st November, 2024 | Time: 9:30 AM
@ BGS Health & Education City Campus. Kengeri, Bengaluru
|| Let's come together to honor our traditions, embrace creativity, and celebrate the spirit of togetherness. ||

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Highest-ever daily ridership recorded in the Delhi metro

78.67 In lakh passenger journeys. Amid the severe pollution gripping the national capital, Delhi Metro recorded its highest-ever daily ridership on November 18, with a staggering 78.67 lakh passenger journeys, according to official data. PTI

Number of children killed in Lebanon in under two months

200 The UN said that over 200 children have been killed in Lebanon since Israel escalated its attacks targeting Hezbollah. James Elder, spokesman for UNICEF, said that their deaths are met with inertia from those able to stop this violence. AFP

Leaders indicted by Pakistan court in relation to 2023 riots

21 Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Pakistan's former foreign minister and vice-president of jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's party, and 20 other leaders were indicted by an Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) on multiple charges related to the May 9, 2023 riots. PTI

Number of children in LMICs lacking access to adequate nurture

182 In million children. In low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), three-fourths of those aged three or four years lack access to adequate nurture, thereby risking healthy development, according to a new series paper, published in *The Lancet* journal. PTI

Activists sentenced in Hong Kong's biggest national security case

45 These ex-lawmakers and activists were sentenced to four to 10 years in prison in Hong Kong's biggest national security case under a Beijing-imposed 2020 national security law that crushed a pro-democracy movement. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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The dangers of high-altitude sickness

How does high-altitude sickness occur? How will a mandatory registration system for tourists visiting the Himalayas improve measures to tackle the illness? How can the sickness be treated? What are some preventive measures one can take before embarking on scaling the Himalayas?

EXPLAINER

Tikender Singh Panwar
Malay Sarkar

The story so far:

In September, a trekker from Idukki, Kerala, died in Uttarakhand while attempting to scale Garur Peak due to respiratory failure. Every year, numerous tourists like this succumb to the effects of high-altitude sickness in the pristine but challenging inner Himalayas. These regions present hidden dangers due to their extreme altitudes, where thinner air and reduced oxygen can lead to potentially fatal conditions.

What is high-altitude sickness?

High-altitude sickness, or Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS), occurs when the body cannot acclimatise to high elevations, typically over 8,000 feet (2,400 metres). As altitude increases, the air pressure and oxygen levels decrease, leading to hypoxia – a shortage of oxygen in the body's tissues. Early symptoms of AMS include headache, nausea, fatigue, and shortness of breath. If left untreated, it can escalate into high-altitude pulmonary edema (HAPE), a life-threatening condition where fluid accumulates in the lungs, or high-altitude cerebral edema (HACE), where fluid collects in the brain. Both conditions require immediate medical intervention, and descent to lower altitudes is often the only way to prevent fatal outcomes.

At higher altitudes, the body tries to adjust by increasing the breathing rate, which can cause hyperventilation, and produce more red blood cells to carry oxygen, which thickens the blood and strains the heart. In cases of HAPE, fluid accumulation in the lungs exacerbates breathing difficulties, while HACE causes symptoms like confusion, hallucinations, and even coma.

What are the infrastructural issues?

While the Himalayan States witness a steady stream of tourists, healthcare facilities beyond major towns like Shimla are inadequate to handle cases of high-altitude sickness. Leh, in the Union Territory of Ladakh, serves as a model, having developed specialised facilities for high-altitude ailments. Yet, most high-altitude regions lack this kind of infrastructure. Immediate and preventive health measures are also lacking. Basic preventive screenings or health checks at entry points for tourists venturing into high-altitude areas could save lives. Such protocols could mirror the erstwhile "Inner Line Permit" system, whereby tourists entering high-altitude zones such as Kinnaur or Lahaul-Spiti undergo screenings at base hospitals.

Adequate precautions: A view of the snow covered Himalayas mountain range, as seen from Shimla, on January 7, 2022. PTI

What about a registration system?

To better manage high-altitude tourism, it is essential to implement a mandatory registration system for tourists entering remote mountain areas. Registrations, stored in a State government database, would allow authorities to monitor tourist movement and respond swiftly in case of emergencies. Such records would also support research on high-altitude illnesses by tracking demographic patterns and risk factors, helping scientists better understand how altitude impacts various populations.

What about early intervention?

The primary cause of high-altitude sickness is rapid ascent without allowing the body time to acclimatise. Gradual ascent, which allows the body to adapt to lower oxygen levels, is the best way to prevent high-altitude illnesses. According to the Wilderness Medical Society, travellers ascending above 3,000 meters should take a rest day every 3-4 days and avoid increasing their sleeping elevation by more than 500 metres per day.

For travellers at moderate to high risk of AMS, doctors recommend medications like Acetazolamide, which aids acclimatisation by promoting better oxygenation, or Dexamethasone, a steroid that reduces inflammation in severe cases. Those with a history of HAPE may take Nifedipine as a preventive measure, starting a day before ascent. However, no prophylactic medication guarantees complete immunity, and anyone travelling to high altitudes with pre-existing health conditions should first consult with a doctor familiar with altitude-related risks.

What are the treatment strategies?

When high-altitude sickness does develop, the most effective treatment is immediate descent to lower altitudes. Symptoms usually improve significantly with a descent of 300-1,000 metres. Supplemental oxygen or a portable hyperbaric chamber, if available, can also help alleviate symptoms of AMS and HACE in emergencies. Pharmacological treatments, such as acetazolamide and dexamethasone, may provide short-term relief, but descent remains the cornerstone of treatment.

What are some policy proposals?

The following steps are recommended – establish state-of-the-art medical facilities in high-altitude regions of the Himalayas; create research centres dedicated to studying high-altitude illnesses; equip Himalayan States with air-ambulance services for rapid medical evacuation in emergencies; and provide health and safety information on government websites and at check-in points.

Tikender Singh Panwar is former deputy mayor of Shimla and is working in the Himalayan region for sustainable development. Dr. Malay Sarkar is Head of the Department of Pulmonary Medicine, IGMC, Shimla

THE GIST

- While the Himalayan States witness a steady stream of tourists, healthcare facilities beyond major towns like Shimla are inadequate to handle cases of high-altitude sickness.
- The primary cause of high-altitude sickness is rapid ascent without allowing the body time to acclimatise. Gradual ascent, which allows the body to adapt to lower oxygen levels, is the best way to prevent high-altitude illnesses.
- To better manage high-altitude tourism, it is essential to implement a mandatory registration system for tourists entering remote mountain areas.

Is imposing tariffs on Chinese imports a good idea?

What will be the impact of the move on the U.S. economy as well as the Chinese economy? Will the imposition of such tariffs trigger another global trade war?

B. Bhagwan Das

The story so far:

Donald Trump, the President-elect of the U.S., has promised to impose tariffs of up to 60% on Chinese imports to correct the huge trade deficit the U.S. has with China and also as a punitive measure to make China reduce the subsidisation of its domestic production, which make Chinese goods cheaper and attractive to American consumers as compared to locally produced American goods. He has also threatened to impose 10% import tariffs on imports from European Union.

What will be the impact?

The imposition of tariffs by the U.S. will raise the domestic price of such products in U.S. markets. If the tariffs are across the board and cover a large part of consumer goods sold in the U.S., then it will increase domestic inflation. However, if it helps to reduce the overall trade deficit of the U.S., it may improve the value of the U.S. dollar and moderate domestic inflation. If the tariffs shift consumption away from Chinese goods and other imported goods, it will boost domestic production and increase domestic supply of consumer goods and help moderate inflation.

However, if China and other countries which are threatened by U.S. tariffs, respond with appropriate tariffs of their own on American goods, triggering another round of global trade wars, the intended policy impact of the action on the trade balance between the U.S. and its major trading partners, may not materialise to the desired extent.

On the contrary, it could have a debilitating impact on global commodity prices, and worsen inflation in most countries.

How will it materially translate?

Consider the following hypothetical example: Assume a shirt costs 724 Chinese yuan in China and is sold in the U.S. market for a $100, based on the current U.S. dollar-Chinese yuan exchange rate of $1:CN¥7.24. Let us also assume, that the same shirt can be supplied by U.S. manufacturers domestically for $105 or 760.2 Chinese yuan. Since they are overpriced, Chinese producers capture the U.S. market and set the domestic price of a shirt in the U.S. at $100. At this price, U.S. producers are unable to compete with Chinese producers in supplying U.S. markets.

Now if the U.S. imposes a 10% import tariff on imported Chinese shirts, under its America First policy, the price of a shirt in the American market will rise to $110 or 796.4 Chinese yuan, based on the above-mentioned dollar-yuan exchange rate. At 796.4 yuan per shirt, Chinese imports are no longer attractive to American buyers. The American producers are happy as they make a profit of $5 as their cost of producing a shirt is $105 while the tariff-inclusive price in the U.S. market is $110. The Chinese exporters will have to bear the 10% import tariff on their exports, which in Chinese currency is equal to 72.4 yuan at the prevailing Dollar-Yuan exchange rate. If the Chinese government decides to support its textile exporters, it can adopt any one of the following policy measures: provide a State subsidy of 72.4 Yuan per shirt; devalue the yuan by 10%; or lower its Central Bank interest rate and increase stimulus spending in the economy, so that the dollar-yuan exchange rate depreciates by 10% to reach $1 equals 7.964 yuan.

At this exchange rate, the Chinese garment exporters will receive 796.4 Chinese yuan per shirt, pay the U.S. import tax of 72.4 Chinese yuan and retain 724 Chinese yuan per shirt as their export earnings, the amount they got per shirt prior to the 10% import tariff. The risk to the Chinese economy could be in the form of a rise in its domestic rate of inflation due to a devalued or depreciating currency. But if these policy interventions help in boosting domestic production and exports, the risk may be offset by increased GDP growth.

Bhagwan Das is former head and associate professor of economics, Loyola College, Chennai.

THE GIST

- Donald Trump, the President-elect of the U.S., has promised to impose tariffs of up to 60% on Chinese imports to correct the huge trade deficit the U.S. has with China.
- The imposition of tariffs by the U.S. will raise the domestic price of such products in U.S. markets. If the tariffs are across the board and cover a large part of consumer goods sold in the U.S., then it will increase domestic inflation.
- If China and other countries; which are threatened by U.S. tariffs, respond with appropriate tariffs of their own on American goods, it will trigger another round of global trade wars.

Employee dies after fire at electric scooter showroom

The fire reportedly broke out in the showroom's switchboard while an electric battery was being charged

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An accidental fire at an electric scooter showroom in Rajajinagar claimed the life of a 26-year-old woman, Priya, on Tuesday evening. She had been preparing to celebrate her birthday on Wednesday.

A resident of Ramchandrapura, she was an accountant at the My EV Store at Navarang Junction. There were six employees in the shop when the fire broke out. While others managed to escape, Priya sought refuge in a cabin. Unfortunately, the cabin was filled with heavy smoke, leading to her death by suffocation, the police said.

The fire reportedly broke out in the showroom's switchboard while an electric battery was being charged, though police are also investigating whether the battery may have exploded. The blaze quickly engulfed the shop, which contained over 25 electric scooters and other equipment, intensifying the fire. The Fire and Emergency Services personnel faced significant challenges in controlling the blaze, with three fire tenders working for over three hours.

The fire that broke out at the showroom in Rajajinagar on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Sydulu Adavath, DCP (North Division), who visited the scene, said though there were a few fire fighting equipment, they were of no use as the staff panicked and ran out to save themselves. They were also not aware of how to use a fire extinguisher, he said. One of the staff members sustained minor injuries and was treated and discharged, the police said.

The showroom's owner has since gone incommunicado. Police have booked a case of causing death due to negligence and are seeking his whereabouts.

An inconsolable Armugam, Priya's father, said, "Wednesday was Priya's birthday. She had bought new clothes on Tuesday to celebrate," he said, adding that she had been working at the showroom for three years.

Priya

"Priya left for work after breakfast around 10 a.m., and she would usually return by 7.15 p.m. We were not aware of the tragic turn of events till 6 p.m. when someone called and gave us the heartbreaking news," he said. He expressed his anger at the owner's negligent behaviour and for not coming to the showroom even after the tragic incident.

Wine merchants call off proposed strike

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A file photo of members of the Federation of Wine Merchants' Association of Karnataka staging a protest in Bengaluru.

The proposed strike by wine merchants across Karnataka on Wednesday, that had been called against alleged corruption in the Excise Department, and with many other demands, has been called off.

The decision to cancel the strike came after a meeting of representatives of Federation of Wine Merchants Association of Karnataka with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday afternoon.

High bribes

"The meeting went well and the Chief Minister responded to our demands positively. A committee comprising officials will look into our demand and submit a report based on which action would be taken. The Chief Minister has promised to address our issues, wherever possible," Federation general secretary B. Govindaraj Hegde said soon after the meeting.

Accusing the Excise Department of high-handedness and corruption, the federation has been demanding that Excise portfolio should be handled by Finance Minister instead of the incumbent Excise Minister.

Wine merchants had accused officials of demanding high bribes to fund their transfers.

Former MUDA Commissioner appears before Lokayukta police

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

The former Commissioner of Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) D.B. Natesh appeared before the Lokayukta police in Mysuru on Tuesday in connection with the ongoing probe into the alleged irregularities in the allotment of residential sites to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's wife Parvathi.

Mr. Natesh was MUDA Commissioner in 2021 when 14 sites measuring a total of 38,284 square feet were allotted to Ms. Parvathi in Vijaynagar 3rd and 4th stage in the city as compensation for the 3 acres and 16 guntas of land in Kesare on the outskirts of Mysuru on which the authority had developed Devanur 3rd Stage Layout. Mr. Natesh, who arrived at the office of the Lokayukta police in Mysuru on Monday morning in response to summons issued by Superintendent of Lokayukta police in Mysuru T.J. Udesh, was questioned by the sleuths for several hours with a break for lunch.

Visibly upset with the electronic media for shooting visuals on his arrival, he was more at ease when he emerged during the lunch break.

Free second opinion helpline number for patients launched

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Patients in Karnataka can now get a free second opinion for complex elective joint surgeries from government experts that will help them make informed decisions.

The department has set up a dedicated second opinion helpline – 18004258330 – that will be functional round-the-clock under the Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust (SAST), the nodal agency implementing the State's health scheme – Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana-Chief Minister's Arogya Karnataka (AB-PMJAY-CM's ArK).

Joint replacement surgeries, like total knee replacement (TKR) and total hip replacement (THR), are increasing due to the growing prevalence of arthritis, age-related joint degeneration, and injuries. In such a situation, patients are often faced with dilemmas and have challenges to decide upon the best available treatment or surgery.

A file photo of robotic joint replacement surgery being performed in Benglauru.

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao, along with top officials, who launched the helpline on Tuesday, said this would ensure that every citizen receives comprehensive and personalised medical advice for managing joint-related issues. This dedicated helpline service is aimed at providing evidence-based guidance by a group of experts to patients having knee and hip problems, and guide them to take an informed decision about the best available treatment option.

"The helpline will be established to offer a platform in Kannada and English where individuals can connect with our expert joint replacement surgeons, ask questions, receive second opinion on treatment plans, clear their myths and wrong beliefs of disease and treatment, surgical options, and rehabilitation programs," the Minister said.

Patients can discuss if there are any alternatives to prevent surgery, information about surgery, and all the advantages and disadvantages if a patient goes through the journey of joint replacement surgery.

Sangappa, Executive Director of SAST, who claimed that this is the first such government helpline in India, said, "Knowing that multiple qualified professionals agree on the diagnosis and treatment plan can offer peace of mind, reducing pre-surgery anxiety and stress for the patient and their family," he said.

User fee in hospitals affiliated to BMCRI revised by 20%

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Patients visiting the State-run Victoria, Minto, Vani Vilas, PMSSY Super Speciality and Trauma and Emergency Care hospitals affiliated to Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI) are now paying higher user fees for treatment, surgeries, blood tests, scans and other medical services. The user fees in these hospitals have been revised upwards by 20% from November 1.

A decision to this effect was taken following a meeting held on May 23 this year. According to a circular issued by BMCRI Dean and Director Ramesh Krishna K., the heads of these five hospitals have been directed to collect the revised user fee.

As per the list of revised user charges for various services, while a 20% increase is for patients directly visiting the hospitals, those referred from outside for CT scans and MRI will be charged ₹ 1,000 over and above the increased fee. The circular came with a 112-page list of all procedures, services with existing charges and revised rates.

Victoria Hospital Medical Superintendent Deepak S. said the rates had not been revised for over eight years. "We have increased the rates marginally. Most of the patients who come to our hospitals are BPL patients, and services are almost free for them," he said.

Medical Education Minister Sharan Prakash Patil said no government order had been issued directing the hospitals to increase the charges. "The Arogya Raksha Samithis of the respective hospitals would have taken a call. The hospital heads had raised the issue during a review meeting and we had asked them to revise marginally in the range of 5% to 10%," he said. He said he would study the revised rates, and if the increase is very high, it will be reduced.

Meanwhile, Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said a marginal revision of user charges is required to be done periodically as the user fee is utilised for the development of the hospitals.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20	
RISE	06:20 SET 17:50
RISE	22:15 SET 10:38
THURSDAY, NOV. 21	
RISE	06:21 SET 17:50
RISE	23:10 SET 11:27
FRIDAY, NOV. 22	
RISE	06:21 SET 17:50
RISE	00:00 SET 12:10

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	29	20
Bengaluru	27	20

Bengaluru Today
27°C Morning will be pleasant with mist and haze. Day will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant. Dry weather to prevail.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be pleasant with mist and haze. Day will be comfortable. Night also will be pleasant.

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THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

Funds for Jayanagar held back after comment by BJP legislator: Shivakumar

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amidst a controversy over the alleged holding back of funds for Jayanagar Assembly constituency in Bengaluru, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Tuesday acknowledged that funds, under descretionary quota, had been held back over a certain comment made by BJP legislator C.K. Ramamurthy in public.

"I have deliberately not provided funds to Jayanagar because he has said that after I became the Minister for Bengaluru, the city has deteriorated," the Deputy Chief Minister told presspersons here.

His statement came when his comments were sought on the lack of funds for the development of Jayanagar constituency, in the backdrop of protests against the decision to withhold funds.

Discretionary quota

"I have given funds to Rajarajeshwarinagar, Padmanabhanagar, Bommanahalli, and Dasarahalli constituencies (all represented by BJP legislators). It's a discretionary grant given to the Deputy Chief Minister. He is saying that Bengaluru has deteriorated. Let me see what is that deterioration," said Mr. Shivakumar.

"There is a procedure. We can't give a constituency ₹100 crore just because they ask for it. Constituencies will receive funding based on needs and there are calculations for that," the Deputy Chief Minister added.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Application Notification No. 210/Halts/BEML/2024/Bengaluru Division
Dated : 12-11-2024
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites sealed applications for appointment of Halt Agent from educated unemployed persons residing in and around the BEML Nagar Train Halt Station for issuing Unreserved Tickets on Commission basis for a period of five (05) years or till up-gradation of the station whichever is earlier.

Sl. No	Station	Section	To Start functioning from
1	BEML Nagar (BEML)	Marikuppam	Date will be notified by the administration

Date and Time of submission of application : From 10:00 Hrs. to 16:00 Hrs. of 06.12.2024
For details log on: www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in
PUB/571/AAF/PRB/SWR/2024-25 Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/Bengaluru
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED
Office of Chief Engineer & Chief General Manager (Tech), BSWML, 1st Floor, UNI Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 052.
No.DGM-1/BSWML/Adde/01/2024-25 Date: 19.11.2024
ADDENDUM-I
The Addendum-1 for the tender notification **No. DGM-1/ BSWML/TEND/ 08/ 2024-25** Dated **07.11.2024** is issued, notifying that **the Venue of Pre-bid meeting dated: 25.11.2024 at 3:00PM is changed to IPP Center, BBMP, #72/4, 16th Cross Road, Vyalikaval, Kodandaramapura, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560003.** Further details can be obtained from KPP Portal.
Sd/-
Deputy General Manager-1
BSWML
DIPR/CP/JA/3314/2024-25

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PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

I, VIDHI Ajay Bansal, D/O: Ajay Suresh Bansal, R/O: B3 1302, Elita Promenade, JP Nagar 7th Phase, Near Brigade Millennium, Bengaluru–078, Have Changed my Name to Vidhi Bansal, Affdvt Dated on 19/11/24.

I, B N Sudhamani @ B M Sudhamani, W/o Late Morris Sameul, r/at No.341, 5th Main, 9th Block, Vinayaka Badavane, Nagarabhavi 2nd Stage, Bangalore 560072 have changed my name as Sudha Morris vide affidavit dtd 10.04.2023 sworn before Notary Kundan Babu, Bluru

I, HATELI (Old name) resident of Ward No-6,J M Road,Gachi Mahal,Godihal Colony,Vijayapura,Karnataka State, have changed my name as HATELI BASHA(New Name),Vide affidavit sworn before notary L P Lamani on 18/11/2024 at Vijayapura.

I, EKTA Shukla spouse of Rajesh Kumar Shukla presently residing at SMQ 68/4, Air Force Station, Yelahanka, Bengaluru-560063, have changed by name from Ekta Shukla to Ekta Tripathi vide Affidavit dated 12/11/2024 sworn before Notary S.R.Ravikumar, B'luru

I, DAVINDERJIT Singh Nafaria resident of SMQ No.257/3 Air Force Station, Yelahanka Bengaluru-560063, have changed by name from Davinderjit Singh Nafaria to Davinderjit Singh vide Affidavit dated 12/11/2024 sworn before S.R.Ravikumar, Bengaluru.

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

I, HARISHCHANDRA Dahat S/o. Late Dayaram Dahat, r/at Flat No.A-506, 5th Floor, Jhanvi Cape Town, Electronic City Phase-1, Neeladri Road, Anekal, Bangalore 560105 have changed my name as Harishchandra Bouddh and changed my religion from Hindu to Buddhist, vide affidavit dtd 15.11.2024 sworn before Notary R.S.Vijay, Blore

I, POOJA Shah W/o Akshay Mehta residing at 18, 4th Main, Subramanya Temple Street, Kumara Park West, Seshadripuram, Bengaluru-560020, have changed my name to Pooja Haresh Shah vide Affidavit dated 19/11/2024 before Meer Hassan Notary Bengaluru.

I, FAHEEMA Panda spouse of Prabir Panda presently residing at Room No.9, M S B Block, Officer's Mess, Air Force Station, Yelahanka, Bengaluru-560063, have changed by name from Faheema Panda to Faheema Afzal Panda vide Affidavit dated 12/11/2024 sworn before Notary S.R.Ravikumar, Bengaluru.

I, MUNAVAR Ali Khan Mohammed Jabbar S/o Jabbar Hyder residing at No. E1,HI Tech, Royal Ridge Residency, 1st Cross, 9th A Main, B T M 1st Stage, Bengaluru-560029, have changed my name to Munawar Ali Khan Mohammed Jabbar vide Affidavit dated 18/11/2024 before Meer Hassan Notary Bengaluru.

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Contact: SHIVU 99649 82607
RLH-24502

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE XI ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE
P & S.C. No 490 of 2024 (CCH-8)
BETWEEN: 1. Smt. VANI DHYANI, W/o. Late. M.J Sreenivasa Dhyani, aged about 68 years, Residing at No. E-906, SMR Vinay Estilla, 3rd Cross, Singapura Layout, Vidyaranyapura Post, BBMP, Bengaluru-560097. **2. DEEPA M.S**, D/o. Late. M.J Sreenivasa Dhyani, aged about 46 years, Residing at No.25, South 61st Street, Apt.F3, Philadelphia, PA, United States of America 19139. Represented by her Special Power of Attorney Holder Mr.Mummadi Sreenivasa Dhyani Bharath. **3. M.S BHARATH**, S/o. Late. M.J Sreenivasa Dhyani, aged about 40 years, Residing at No. E-906, SMR Vinay Estilla, 3rd Cross, Singapura Layout, Vidyaranyapura Post, BBMP, Bengaluru-560097. ... **PETITIONERS -V/s-**
AND: Nil ... RESPONDENTS
PUBLIC NOTICE
Whereas the petitioners have filed above petition under section 372 of Indian Succession Act 1925, seeking for grant of Succession Certificate in their favour to administer the estate of Sri. Late. M.J Sreenivasa Dhyani, S/o. Late. Jayaram Chetty, who was the husband of Petitioner No. 1 and father of petitioner No.2 and 3, who died on 26.10.2023, with respect of below mentioned Schedule. The persons, those who have any objection or whatsoever can appear before this Hon'ble Court in person or by a pleader on **10/12/2024** at **11:00 A.M.** in CCH-8, City Civil Court, Bangalore to answer the same, failing which the case will be disposed off ex-parte.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
Account Bearing No. 0384040100007339 at Jammu and Kashmir Bank, Mission Road Branch, Bangalore, balance amount of Rs.34,54,375/- (Rupees Thirty Four Lakhs Fifty Four Thousand Three Hundred and Seventy Five only) in the name of Late. M.J Sreenivasa Dhyani, to be transferred to the Petitioners herein." The above Account No. 0384040100007339 standing in the name of deceased Late. M.J Sreenivasa Dhyani.
Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 23/11/2024
By order of the Court, Senior Sheristedar, City Civil Court, Bengaluru
Advocate for Petitioner: **SUHAS .T.L** No.220B/54, 6th Main Road, IV Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560 010

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ISSN 0971 - 751X

BUILDING BLOCKS

AFP

If diamonds and pencils are made out of carbon, how is it that pencils can write?

When you write using a pencil, you are sliding the core of the pencil on paper. In the process, you're forcing the carbon atoms of the pencil to slide on the atoms of the paper. If you use a diamond on paper, the atoms of the material are so tightly bound they have absolutely no interest in leaving

Adhip Agarwala

"Can I get a pencil?"

"Yes of course," and the lady at the counter hands me a cigarette.

I awkwardly resist and say "I actually do need a pencil." She judges me a bit and hands me one, probably wondering why an adult might need this. As it turns out, 'pencil' is one of many words young adults use to refer to cigarettes, which is unfortunate because a pencil should just mean a pencil.

While tables and smartphones are all the fad, some of us still prefer the pencil. They are a technological marvel and very resourceful. They can help push in electrical sockets, keep your teeth fit (if you chew on them), and punch open a food packet. And of course they can help you write.

Each pencil has a black-grey core surrounded by wood. When you sharpen the pencil, the core becomes more exposed, and the pencil can write better.

We regularly use pens to write but they have a thick liquid ink inside. This is essentially a coloured liquid that flows like any other liquid, be it water or oil. Since it flows on paper and has a colour, it leaves its footprints behind as it flows, and in this way pens write. But the core of a pencil is solid, like a metal spoon. If we move a steel spoon on paper, no amount of metal spills on the paper.

How then does a pencil write?

Carbon and its phases

The core of the pencil is made of carbon – the same carbon most of us are primarily made of. Carbon is one of the most common elements on our planet. It can come in different phases and forms.

In ambient conditions, water is a liquid. When it's hotter, it becomes vapour, a gas. When it's cold enough, it becomes a solid called ice. These phases of matter have completely different properties. You could sit (with some inconvenience) on a block of ice but you shouldn't risk sitting on a pool of water. Yet both are made of the same molecules of hydrogen and oxygen: H2O. The difference is in how these molecules connect to each other.

Similarly, when carbon atoms are arranged and stacked in different ways, they have completely different properties. Imagine each carbon atom has four hands. Each hand is a restless electron. If the hand forms a bond with another carbon, the atoms share the electron and it becomes calmer. In this way, if the carbon atoms arrange themselves in the form of an Egyptian pyramid-like structure, they form a diamond.

Diamonds are shiny, transparent, and the hardest material known in nature. This is why it's often used to cut other metals. No wonder diamonds are expensive and, for no fault of their own, often confused with expressions of love. The real magic lies with the carbon in a pencil.

Graphite and sandwiches

Pencil cores are made of carbon, too, but a different form called graphite.

Unlike in diamonds, the carbons atoms in graphite are arranged in sheets, like slices of bread in a sandwich. Each layer contains carbon atoms connected to each other with three hands – that's a very strong bond. However, the bonds between sheets are weak. Each layer in this arrangement is called graphene.

When graphene is stacked in multiple layers, it creates graphite – which is at the core of a pencil.

If you like, imagine the pencil's core to be a tower of your favourite sandwich, containing millions of layers of bread with some cheese, patties, and/or sauce in between. If both graphite and diamond are made of carbon atoms, why can't we write with diamonds?

Writing by sliding

When you write using a pencil, you are sliding the core of the pencil on paper. In the process, you're forcing the carbon atoms of the pencil to slide on the atoms of the paper.

If you slide a hard material like diamond or a steel spoon on paper, the atoms of the material are so tightly bound to each other they have absolutely no interest in leaving and moving to the surface of the paper.

But something amazing happens when you slide graphite. Graphite has layers of graphene. And just as it is slightly harder to remove a slice of bread from the middle of the sandwich than from the top, sliding graphite on paper sloughs off graphene-like layers onto the paper.

This is how scientists first discovered graphene, too. They stuck cellophane tape on graphite and then ripped it off. When they looked at the tape under a microscope, they found thin layers of carbon stuck to it, i.e. graphene.

As you go on wiggling the pencil, more and more layers of carbon come off. Each of these layers is black and shiny and is readily apparent to the human eye.

This is how a pencil can write even though it lacks liquid ink.

Condensed matter physics

Carbon atoms arranged in one way behave so differently from when they're arranged in a different way – even though each carbon atom itself behaves the same way. Diamond is whitish transparent while graphite is shiny and black. These differences arise based on how the electrons the carbon atoms share behave even though, again, all electrons are the same.

The underlying physics here is similar to why birds form patterns in the evening sky or how even humans behave so differently when they are in large groups. We may not be able to predict the behaviour of even a single bird or a person in general, but when they get together, they can acquire altogether new behaviours. The same is true for cars in traffic and ants in a colony.

This field of study is called condensed matter physics. If you want to explore it more, consider taking an undergraduate degree in physics.

And the next time you have some time to spare on a casual evening, consider getting yourself a pencil. Sharpen it well and sketch. As you find your lines shaping up your thoughts, don't forget to thank those hundreds of carbon atoms selflessly sliding off at your will.

Adhip Agarwala is an assistant professor of physics at IIT Kanpur.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Here is a quiz on events that happened on November 20

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1

On this day in 1910, which Mexican businessman and revolutionary launched a failed revolt that nonetheless sparked the Mexican Revolution? He also served as the 37th President of Mexico from 1911 until he was deposed in a coup d'état in February 1913 and assassinated.

QUESTION 2

Name the Swedish author who was born on this day in 1858. She is known to be the first woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature, which she was awarded in 1909.

QUESTION 3

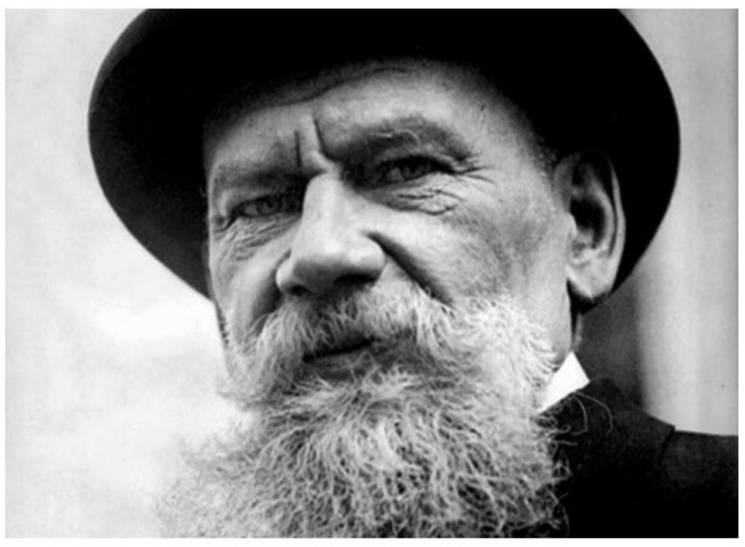
This American film director died on this day in 2006. He was nominated for five Academy Awards for Best Director for *MASH, Nashville, The Player, Short Cuts*, and *Gosford Park*. Name him.

QUESTION 4

Name the American politician, also a lawyer, who served as the 64th United States attorney general and as a U.S. senator from New York from January 1965 until his assassination in June 1968. He was born on this day in 1925.

QUESTION 5

On this day in 1985, Microsoft released its first major graphical personal computer operating environment. What was it called?



Visual question:

Identify this author who died on this day in 1910. Name his two widely known books.

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Name this Congress legislator who holds the record of being the longest serving active MLA in the Assembly. **Ans: Balasaheb Thorat**

2. He is the serving Minister of Cooperation in the current government. **Ans: Dilip Walse Patil from Ambegaon**

3. This leader from the Peasants and Workers Party holds the record of being a MLA for the most number of years in the Maharashtra Assembly. **Ans: Ganpatrao Deshmukh from Sangola**

4. This constituency has the highest number of registered electors in Maharashtra. **Ans: Chinchwad**

5. The distinction the "Majalgoan" constituency holds. **Ans: The constituency with the most number of candidates, 34.**

Visual: This "Raj Mudra" is part of this party's flag. **Ans: Maharashtra Navnirman Sena**

Early Birds: Prashant Nain| Tamal Biswas| Tito Shiladitya| Sonali Das| Dodo Jayaditya

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian Upendran

"Hi. How are you?"

"Pretty cool."

"Cool? How can you be cool when it's so hot in here?"

"When somebody says he's cool, it means he's fine. It's a slang expression."

"Slang, eh? I wish I could say I was cool too. But I'm not. I've just returned after watching a film called *My Fair Lady*.."

"That's an awesome movie, isn't it?"

"Awesome? Doesn't awesome mean 'inspiring awe'?"

"You're right. But in the sentence '*My Fair Lady* is an awesome movie', awesome means 'great' or 'fantastic'. Nowadays, the word is also used to describe things or people. I visited Chicago recently and it's awesome. Here the word means 'remarkable, marvellous'."

"You say that awesome can be used with people as well. So can I say Vinod Kambli is an awesome cricketer?"

"Yes, you can. Or you can merely say 'Kambli is awesome'. But if you are a great fan of Kambli, you would probably say 'Kambli is cool'."

"Cool? I thought you said 'cool' meant 'fine'."

"It does, but it also means 'great'. For example, when I say 'Edberg is cool', I mean that Edberg is really great and I like him very very much."

"I see. But tell me, can the word 'cool' be used with things as well?"

"Yes. If somebody asks you how your vacation was, you could reply 'cool' or 'pretty cool' to mean that it was great."

"It is all so confusing, one word having so many meanings."

"The context will determine the meaning. No problem."

"By the way, how was the theatre you went to?"

"It was a big theatre, but the AC wasn't working."

"Why didn't you complain to the manager?"

"I did. He said that the AC had broken down just before the show began. There were a few people working on it. He considered bribing them so that they would finish repairing it quickly."

"I don't think they would have been interested in a piece of bread."

"Bread? What are you talking about?"

"A 'bribe' was originally a piece of bread given to beggars."

"You must be joking."

"In the olden days, well-to-do people used to carry pieces of bread in their pocket. Whenever beggars followed them and pestered them for money, they would give them a piece of bread and send them away."

"Maybe we should start doing the same thing."

"What?"

"Whenever we go to some office and someone asks for a bribe, we should merely give him/her a piece of bread – or better still, a loaf of bread!"

"Do you know what 'bribery-oath' is?"

"What is it?"

"It is 'an oath taken by an elector that he/she had not been bribed'."

Published in The Hindu on February 8, 1994.

Word of the day

Gesticulate:
show, express or direct through movement

Synonyms: gesture, motion

Usage: *He gesticulated with his shoulders.*

Pronunciation:
newsth.live/gesticulatepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /dʒɛs'tɪkjʊleɪt/, /dʒɛs'tɪkjəleɪt/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

OFFICE OF THE JOINT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE
Tumkur district, Tumkur
(Zilla Panchayath, Tumkur)

Sl.No.JDA/Tum/Admin-2/0utsource Staff/2024-25 Date: 13.11.2024

E-Tender Notification

Tenders are invited from eligible suppliers to supply typists, drivers and D Group employees to this office and subordinate offices during the year 2024-25 on outsourcing basis.

The Tender amount is **Rs.5187492/-** and EMD of **Rs.103750/-** should be paid in e-procurement portal (NEFT, OTC, Credit card, Debit card)

Regarding conditions pertaining to outsourcing the staff and other details are available in e-procurement portal. For more details contact Joint Director of Agriculture office (phone number 0816-2278474)

Online tender publishing date : 15.11.2024
Last date to submit tender application : 16.12.2024 5.00 pm
Technical Bid opening date : 18.12.2024 11.00 am

Sd/- Joint Director of Agriculture
Tumkur District, Tumkur

DIPR/TUM/RO-85/24-25/Oysters

Government of Karnataka
ಕ್ರಾಫರ್ಡ್ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಸಕಲೇಶಪುರ,
(ವಿಭಾಗೀಯ ಮಟ್ಟದ 150 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ)

CRAWFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL, SAKALESHAPURA - 573 134 (150 Bed Sub-divisional Hospital)

email:crawfordhospital@gmail.com phone:08173-243098
Sl/No/CGHS/Group D/Non Clinic/Tender/241/2023-24
Date 16.11.2024

"E" Procurement Re-Tender Notification

Tender is Invited through "E" Procurementportal to Provide a total of 25 manpower on outsource basis (Group-D+ Non Clinical) to Crawford General Hospital , Sakalespura with total of 150 Beds. Tenders can be submitted from 16.11.2024. Deadline for receipt to tender is 30.11.2024 4.30pm Estimated Tender Amount Rs.65,00,000.00, EMD Rs. 162500.00 ForMore information visit www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

sd/- Administrative Medical Officer,
Crawford General Hospital, Sakaleshpura.

ವಾಸಾಸಂ೨/ಟೆಸನಿ/ಹಾಸನ/670/ಕೆಎಸ್.ಎಂಸಿಎ/2024–25

KARNATAKA HANDLOOM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Head Office, Priyadarshini Nekar Bhavana,
Ist Floor, Opp: K.H.Patil College, Vidyanagar,
Hubli-580031, E-Mail : mpckhdchbl@gmail.com

No.KHDC/MD/M(P&A)/2024-25/ Date : 19.11.2024

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION(2024-25)

The Karnataka Handloom Development Corporation Limited invites e-tender under Karnataka Transparency in Public procurement 1999 Act and Rules 2000 for providing Technical Supervisors, computer operators, Accounts Clerk, Sales Assistants, Drivers, Security Guard, Attender, Sweepers and Labours. on outsource basis, through e-procurement platform. **Instructions :** (1) e-Tender Amount Rs. **4.26** Crores (2) EMD Amount of Rs. **6.40** lakhs (3) Pre-Bid Meeting on **28.11.2024** at 11.00 AM (4) Last date for submission of applications, **18.12.2024** at 5.30 PM (5) Opening of Technical Bid on **20.12.2024** at 11.00 AM (6) Opening of Financial Bid on **23.12.2024** at 11.00 AM. For further information manpower supplying agencies may contact Production Manager(Cotton) **Mobile No.9113544219** or you may visit e-procurement website **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/DWD/KSMCA/625/2024-25 **Sd/- Managing Director**

Town Panchayat Office, Holalkere
Chitradurga District, Karnataka State, Holalkere - 577526
Ph.: 08191 – 275151/275102 email: tpholalkere@yahoo.com
Website: www.holalkeretown.mrc.gov.in

Sl.No.: T.P.H.: T.B.C.R-26/2024-25/07 Date: 19.11.2024

Karnataka Public Procurement Tender Notice

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka Tenders are invited as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules – 2000 and as per Standard Tender Document of Finance Department from eligible contractors/authorised agencies for availing Human Resource on contract basis required to manage disposal of solid waste in the limits of Holalkere Town. Bidders can submit their Tender proposals to The Chief Officer, Town Panchayat, Holalkere through e-procurement website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in
(1) Last Date for downloading Tenders and uploading in Karnataka Public Procurement portal: 05.12.2024 up to 5.00 PM. (2) Date of opening the Tender: 06.12.2024 after 5.30 PM. (3) Application fee will not be returned. As per Rules as mentioned in K.P.P. Portal. **Name of Work:** Supply of Labour for SWM processing at Landfill site on Outsource Basis to Holalkere Town DMA/2024-25/SE3869 Approx. Tender Amount: Rs. 76.58 lakhs. E.M.D.: Rs. 1,92,000/- Time Period: 12 Months. For further details and conditions contact Engineer at the works Department of Holalkere Town Panchayat or can be obtained in official website of Holalkere Town Panchayat www.holalkeretown.mrc.gov.in in Tender Notification section.

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/375/2024-25 **Sd/- Chief Officer, Town Panchayat, Hoalalkere**

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Joint Director (Animal Husbandry),
N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560 002.

No.JD(AH)/PR/354/2024-25 Date: 19-11-2024

Tender Notification

BBMP invites tenders from eligible bidders for Providing Manpower to Slaughter Houses of BBMP on outsourced Basis. Following is the Events of Tender Process:

1.	**Tender Reference No.**	**BBMP/2024-25/SE 1077**
2.	Date of Commencement of Download of Tender Document form Karnataka Public Procurement website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**	on 19.11.2024 onwards
3.	Last Date and Time for uploading Online Queries in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal	on 22.11.2024 upto 5:00 p.m.
4.	Date and Time for Pre-bid Meeting	22.11.2024 at 11:00 a.m. at the following venue: Office of the Joint Director (Animal Husbandry), N. R. Square, Bengaluru-560 002.
5.	Last Date & Time for uploading of e-Tender in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal	03.12.2024 upto 5:00 p.m.
6.	Date and Time of Online Opening of Technical Bids in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal	04.12.2024 upto 5:10 p.m.
7.	Address for Communication	Joint Director (Animal Husbandry), N. R. Square, Bengaluru-560 002. Phone: 9480685653 E-mail: jointdirector01@gmail.com

(1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. (2)** Other details can be seen in the tender documents.

Sd/-, Joint Director (Animal Husbandry), BBMP.

THE HINDU
OPPORTUNITIES

GENERAL

NATIONAL LAW SCHOOL OF INDIA UNIVERSITY (NLSIU)
Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru - 560072

FACULTY RECRUITMENT

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for the following vacancies:

Professor (Law), Associate Professor (Law), Associate Professor (Social Sciences), Assistant Professor (Law), Assistant Professor (5-year Contract), Faculty Positions (5-year Contract) - Centre for the Study of Social Inclusion (CSSI).

NLSIU-24502

Please visit the University website at **www.nls.ac.in** for the detailed Recruitment Notifications and Online Application Forms. Applications must be submitted by 31.12.2024 (5 pm IST).

Date: 20.11.2024 **REGISTRAR**

आंध्रप्रदेश केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालय ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ కేంద్రీయ విశ్వవిద్యాలయం
CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF ANDHRA PRADESH
(Established by an act of Parliament in 2019)

ADVERTISEMENT FOR TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING POSITIONS
Advt. No. 04/2024 & 05/2024 Dated, 08/11/2024

Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for recruitment to the following positions : **(a)** Teaching Posts through online mode only **"https://curec.samarth.ac.in/" (b)** Non-Teaching Posts through online mode only **"https://cuapnt.samarth.edu.in/"** latest by **8th December, 2024 till midnight.** For details regarding the terms and conditions and other relevant information such as Essential Qualification, Experience and Eligibility conditions, General Instructions etc. please refer the advertisement for teaching / non-teaching positions **Advt. No. 04/2024 & 05/2024** available onthe CUAP website: **www.cuap.ac.in**

a) Teaching Posts: Professor (Economics - 1UR) (Level-14), Associate Professors (English - 1OBC), Associate Professor (Psychology - 1UR) & Associate Professor (Management - 1UR) (Level -13A).

b) Non-Teaching Posts: Finance Officer (1UR), Junior Engineer (Civil)-(1UR) and Security Assistant (2UR).

I/c, Selection Committee Section, CUAP, Ananthapuramu

शिक्षण/गैर-शिक्षण पदों के लिए विज्ञापन
विज्ञापन क्रमांक 04/2024 & 05/2024 दिनांक 08/11/2024

निम्नलिखित पदों पर केवल ऑनलाइन के माध्यम से भर्ती के लिए पात्र उम्मीदवारों से आवेदन आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं:

(ए) शिक्षण पदों के लिए केवल ऑनलाइन के माध्यम से **"https://curec.samarth.ac.in/"** (बी) गैर-शिक्षण पदों के लिए केवल ऑनलाइन के माध्यम से **"https://cuapnt.samarth.edu.in/"** 8 दिसम्बर, 2024 मध्यरात्रि तक. नियम और शर्तों और अन्य प्रासंगिक जानकारी जैसे आवश्यक योग्यता, अनुभव और पात्रता शर्तें, सामान्य निर्देश आदि के विवरण के लिए कृपया विज्ञापन क्रमांक 04/2024 और 05/2024 सीयूएपी वेबसाइट: **www.cuap.ac.in** पर उपलब्ध है, देखें।

(ए) शिक्षण पद : प्रोफेसर (अर्थशास्त्र - 1 यूआर) (स्तर-14), एसोसिएट प्रोफेसर (अंग्रेजी-1ओबीसी), एसोसिएट प्रोफेसर (मनोविज्ञान– 1 यूआर) और एसोसिएट प्रोफेसर (प्रबंधन– 1 यूआर) (स्तर -13ए).

(बी) गैर-शिक्षण पद: वित्त अधिकारी (1 यूआर), जूनियर इंजीनियर (सिविल) - (1 यूआर) और सुरक्षा सहायक (2 यूआर).

आई / सी चयन समिति अनुभाग, सीयूएपी, अनंतपुरमू

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FACULTY RECRUITMENT

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careers@vnrvjiet.in. For further details please visit our website:
www.vnrvjiet.ac.in **Sd/- GENERAL SECRETARY VIGNANA JYOTHI**
Date: 20-11-2024

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FOR PONDICHERRY & CHENNAI CAMPUSES

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PSYCHIATRY PROFESSOR
DVL PROFESSOR

Professors and All Cadres can kindly forward your CV
Email id : academic@svmchrc.ac.in hrmanager@svmedcity.com
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S. No.	Post Name	Location	No of Vacancies
1	Career and Mental Health Counsellors	26 Districts	255
2	PMU Members/Coordinators	Vijayawada	2

The complete details of Eligibility criteria, remuneration, qualification, age, job description etc. are available on **https://www.edcilindia.co.in/TCareers**
Online application form (In English Only) is available from: **19th November 2024**
The last date of receipt of online application form is: **3rd December 2024**

Advertisement No. 118/2024
Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
DIRECTOR (PRODUCTION)
in
BHARAT DYNAMICS LIMITED (BDL)

Last date of submission of application by applicants is by 15.00 hours on **16th December, 2024**
Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal Officers to PESB is by 15.00 hours on **26th December, 2024.**
For details login to website **https://pesb.gov.in**

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RECRUITMENT

Can Fin Homes Limited (CFHL) is a listed Housing Finance Company, incorporated under Companies Act 1956, registered with National Housing Bank and regulated by Reserve Bank of India. The Company is looking for recruitment of Chief Information Officer on Contract/Regular Basis.

CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

For further details regarding eligibility criteria, terms & conditions etc., please visit Company's website
www.canfinhomes.com
Interested candidates can apply online.
Last date for receipt of application - **26/11/2024**
The Company reserves the right of selection of candidates.

Date: 18/11/2024 Sd/- **General Manager**

CHENNAI METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

NOTICE INVITING TENDER THROUGH E-TENDER
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

e-bids are invited from the eligible bidders for the following work as per the procedure of CMWSSB under two cover system conforming to the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Act, 1998 and Rules 2000.

Sl. No.	Name of work and Tender No.	Bid Security	e-Bid Submission Closing Date	e-Bid Opening Date
1	Package I - Improvement of Water Supply by constructing Under Ground Tanks, Water Distribution stations and Laying of feeder main in Area I & V including Replacement of PVC water main, renewal of chocked-up water main, strengthening of various sizes of water main in various depots in Area IV & Area V under Vada Chennai Valarchi Thittam. **CNT/WSS/NCB/VCVT/3630A/2024-25**	**Rs.20.97 lakhs**	**03.12.2024 upto 3.00 p.m.**	**04.12.2024 after 3.30 p.m.**

EMD by online transfer only through tender Portal. The tenderer shall submit scanned copy of online transaction statement towards EMD as part of Tender document.

Availability of tender documents and e-bid submission is permitted through tender portal / website: **www.tntenders.gov.in** For all other details refer tender schedule in the website from **21.11.2024**

தேவை இத்தருணம் – குடிநீர் சிக்கனம் DIPR/5004/Tender/2024 CE(P)-III/SE(C&M) (i/c)

ಪುರಸಭೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮೂಡಲಗಿ.
ತಾ:ಮೂಡಲಗಿ ಪಿನಕೋಡ 591312 ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ:ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ. ದೂರವಾಣಿ: ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ : 08334–251235
E Mail:itstaff_ulb_mudalagi@yahoo.com. Website:www.mudalagitown.mrc.gov.in

ನಂ/ಪುಸಮೂ/ಕಂ.ವಿ/ 2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ :16–11–2024

ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪುರಸಭೆಗಳ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ 1964 ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿ 1966 ರ ನಿಯಮ 39 ರನ್ವಯ)

ಮೂಡಲಗಿ ಪುರಸಭೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರಿಗೆ ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ, ಮೂಡಲಗಿ ಪುರಸಭೆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ಪುರಸಭೆಯ ಮಾಲ್ಕೀ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಾಣಿಸಿದ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರ ಅನುಕೂಲತೆಗಾಗಿ ಕಾಯ್ದಿರಿಸಿದ (Civic Amenities) ಖುಲ್ಲಾ ಜಾಗೆಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಾಣಿಸಿದ ಉದ್ದೇಶಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡ ಕಟ್ಟುವ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ಮಂಜೂರಾತಿ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಂಡು ನೀಡಲು 1)ಪುರಸಭೆಯ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಸಭೆಯ ಠರಾವು ನಂ. 288 ದಿನಾಂಕ 14–11–2024 2) ಠರಾವು ನಂ. 289 ದಿನಾಂಕ 14–11–2024 ರಂದು ನಿರ್ಣಯ ಕೈಕೊಂಡಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಕಾರಣ ಸದರ ಜಾಗೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಉದ್ದೇಶದ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡ ಕಟ್ಟಲು ಪುರಸಭೆಯಿಂದ ನೀಡುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಯಾರದಾದರೂ ತಕರಾರು/ಸಲಹೆ ಸೂಚನೆಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಪ್ರಸಿದ್ದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ 30 ದಿನಗಳೊಳಗಾಗಿ ಪುರಸಭೆಗೆ ಲಿಖಿತವಾಗಿ ಕೊಡತಕ್ಕದ್ದು ಅವಧಿ ಮೀರಿ ಬಂದ ತಕರಾರುಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸುವದಿಲ್ಲಾ ಅಂತಾ ತಿಳಿಯಿರಿ.

ಅ. ನಂ.	ರಿ.ಸ.ನಂ. ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ಲಾಟ ನಂ. ಹಾಗೂ ನಿವೇಶನ ನಂಬರ	ನಿವೇಶನದ ಉದ್ದಳತೆ / ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ	ಯಾವ ಉದ್ದೇಶಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ನೀಡುವದು.
1	ರಿ.ಸ.ನಂ. 511/ಅ/2, 511/ಅ/3, 511/ಅ/5, 511/ಅ/9 ಪ್ಲಾಟ ನಂ. 17 ಟಿ.ಎಂ.ಸಿ. ನಂಬರ 4722	229.23 ಚದರ ಮೀಟರ	ಕನ್ನಡ ಸಾಹಿತ್ಯ ಪರಿಷತ್ ತಾಲೂಕ ಘಟಕ ಮೂಡಲಗಿ ವತಿಯಿಂದ ಕನ್ನಡ ಭವನ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣಕ್ಕಾಗಿ.
2	ರಿ.ಸ.ನಂ. 512/6 ಪ್ಲಾಟ ನಂ. 52 ಟಿ.ಎಂ.ಸಿ.ನಂಬರ 4581	975.33 ಚದರ ಮೀಟರ	ಹೇಮರಡ್ಡಿ ಮಲ್ಲಮ್ಮ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಭವನ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಲು

ಸಹಿ/–ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಪುರಸಭೆ ಮೂಡಲಗಿ ಸಹಿ/–ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಪುರಸಭೆ ಮೂಡಲಗಿ

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1160/KSMCA/2024-25

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER - 3rd Call (Only through KPP portal)

BWSSB invites TENDERS in Two Stage Tender System from registered agencies for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (West), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore-09

Sl. No.	Name of the Works	Amount put to Tender / EMD Amount
IFT No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(W)/ACE(W)-1/DCE(M)-2/TA(W)/7695/2024-25		**Date: 16.11.2024**
1	Providing and laying of various dia DI water supply lines in lieu of existing CI lines in BCC layout & Gangonahalli layout DMA (Part-I) coming under Chandra Layout Service Station area of AEE W1-2 Sub-division.	**Rs. 159.97 lakhs** / **Rs. 2.40 lakhs**
IFT No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(W)/ACE(W)-1/DCE(M)-2/TA(W)/7697/2024-25		**Date: 16.11.2024**
2	Providing and laying of various dia water supply lines in lieu of existing DI lines in Cauverypura coming under Vijayanagar OHT Service Station area of AEE W1-2 Sub-division.	**Rs. 142.70 lakhs** / **Rs. 2.15 lakhs**
IFT No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(W)/ACE(W)-1/DCE(M)-2/TA(W)/7698/2024-25		**Date: 16.11.2024**
3	Providing and laying of various dia DI feeder main distribution pipeline to replace the existing old leaky water mains to Remco layout DMA coming under Hosahalli Service Station area of AEE W1-1 Sub-division.	**Rs. 199.03 lakhs** / **Rs. 2.99 lakhs**

For the above works, the Last date and time for receipt of completed tenders will be on **04.12.2024 upto 16:00 hrs.** The bids opening is on **05.12.2024 after 17:00 hrs.**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer (West)

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-Procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the undersigned office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/YC/3286/2024-25

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, RAICHUR
[ICAR, NAAC accredited and UGC u/s 12(B) & 2(f) approved]
Stores Purchase Officer, UAS, Raichur - 584104,
E-mail: spo@uasraichur.edu.inPh: 08532-220165

E-Tender Notification No. SPO/UASR/E-Proc-06/2024-25, Dt: 19-11-2024.

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur is inviting e-tender for Seed Bags, Plant Protection chemicals, Nutrients for chick pea magic production & other scientific equipments required to ZARS, Kalaburgi. The interested suppliers are requested to participate through online only. The website address is www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in (Indent Number:-UASRCR/2024-25/IND0026 to 0040. The last date for submission of filled in Tender Document is 17-12-2024.

DIP/RCR/533/KSMC&A/530/2024-25 **Sd/- Stores Purchase Officer UAS, Raichur.**

Government of Karnataka
Department of Collegiate and Technical Education
NO. 1, Unnatha Shikshana Soudha, Sheshadri Road, Bangalore – 560 001
Phone: 080-22223906, email: dce.tenders2017@gmail.com

No.: DCE/ITS/PUR/12/2024-INFO (Computer No. 1437822) Date: 19.11.2024

E-Tender Notification

The Commissioner for Collegiate and Technical Education, Bangalore hereby invites bids in Two-Cover system through e-Procurement portal from eligible bidders for the following Tender. The Tender Documents with detailed terms and conditions may be obtained from the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Tender Schedules are as below

Sl. No.	Tender Name & Number	Date of Floating Tender on e- Procurement Portal	Date and Time of pre-bid meeting	Last date and Time for bidding through eprocurement portal
1.	**Tender No: DCE/2024-25/IND0042** "Supply of Reference Books for RUSA Funded Government First Grade Colleges in Bangalore Region"	19/11/2024	22/11/2024 11.00 AM	03/12/2024 5.30 PM
2.	**Tender No: DCE/2024-25/IND0043** "Supply of Reference Books for RUSA Funded Government First Grade Colleges in Dharwad Region"	19/11/2024	22/11/2024 11.00 AM	03/12/2024 5.30 PM
3.	**Tender No: DCE/2024-25/IND0044** "Supply of Reference Books for RUSA Funded Government First Grade Colleges in Kalburagi Region"	19/11/2024	22/11/2024 11.00 AM	03/12/2024 5.30 PM
4.	**Tender No: DCE/2024-25/IND0045** "Supply of Reference Books for RUSA Funded Government First Grade Colleges in Mangalore Region"	19/11/2024	22/11/2024 11.00 AM	03/12/2024 5.30 PM
5.	**Tender No: DCE/2024-25/IND0046** "Supply of Reference Books for RUSA Funded Government First Grade Colleges in Mysore Region"	19/11/2024	22/11/2024 11.00 AM	03/12/2024 5.30 PM
6.	**Tender No: DCE/2024-25/IND0047** "Supply of Reference Books for RUSA Funded Government First Grade Colleges in Shivamogga Region"	19/11/2024	22/11/2024 11.00 AM	03/12/2024 5.30 PM
7.	**Tender No: DCE/2024-25/IND0028/Call-2** "Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Desktops, Printers and UPS to RUSA funded Govt First Grade Colleges under the purview of Department of Collegiate and Technical Education, Bangalore"	19/11/2024	21/11/2024 11.00 AM	27/11/2024 5.30 PM
8.	**Tender No: DCE/2024-25/IND0030/Call-3** "Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Science Lab Equipment to RUSA Phase 1 and Phase 2 Colleges under the purview of Department of Collegiate and Technical Education, Bangalore"	19/11/2024	21/11/2024 11.00 AM	29/11/2024 5.30 PM

DIPR/CP/3296/Zen/2024-25 **Sd/-**
Director of Collegiate Education, Bangalore, Karnataka

Vikram Gowda: Maoist leader wanted for 22 years with over 114 pending cases

Belonging to the Malekudiya tribal community, he hailed from a family of peasants and dropped out of school after class 4

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
Raghava M.
BENGALURU/MANGALURU

Police inspecting the spot where the alleged encounter of Maoist leader Vikram Gowda took place at Pittabail, near Hebri, in Udupi district on Tuesday. UMESH S. SHETTIGAR

Vikram Gowda, killed in an alleged encounter with the Anti Naxal Force (ANF) commandos late on Monday night, was a class 4 dropout from the tribal Malekudiya community, who grew to be a prominent Maoist leader. He was wanted by the security agencies for 22 years and has over 114 cases pending against him in Karnataka and Kerala.

The 44-year-old Vikram hailed from Nadpalu village in Hebri taluk of Udupi district, not very far from the Peetabailu village where he was gunned down by the ANF. He hailed from a family of peasants. He reportedly came in contact with Maoists in the late 1990s when he participated in protests against the then proposed creation of Kudremukh National Park. Initially, he worked as a courier to them and was later recruited, sources said. He went underground in 2002. He has been on the "wanted" list of the Karnataka police since then.

Vikram had over 114 cases pending against him - 64 cases in Karnataka, including three murder cases, and 50 cases in Kerala. Of the 64 cases, three pertain to murder. Two cases pertain to murders of people - 42-year-old Venkatesh in Sringeri police station limits in 2007, and Sadashiva Gowda, a bamboo weaver killed in 2011, on suspicion of being police informants.

Another case pertains to the death of KSRP constable in an encounter with the police in Belthangady police station limits in 2011.

The Karnataka police had announced a reward of ₹5 lakh, and the Kerala police announced a reward of ₹50,000 for information leading to his capture.

Vikram's former wife Savitri, 38, also a tribal from the same area, has been active in the Maoist movement since 2004. She is presently lodged in a prison in Kerala, following her arrest by the Kerala police in November 2021, along with B.G. Krishnamurthy, also from Karnataka and a member of the Central Committee of the banned CPI (Maoist).

Only seven active Maoists remain in State after Vikram's death?

The Hindu Bureau
CHIKKAMAGALURU/ MANGALURU/BENGALURU

A group of around eight known Maoists, six of them hailing from Karnataka, had moved back to the Karnataka earlier this year from the Wayanad-Kannur belt in Kerala, sources in the security establishment now suspect.

Part of probe

Vikram Gowda, 44, killed in an encounter on Monday night, was the most prominent among them. There are seven known Maoists left in this group known to be active in the State. However, police sources said whether there are more, is part of the probe.

Sources in the security agencies identified the eight members of this group as: John alias Jayanna, Vikram Gowda, Mundagaru Latha, Vanajakshi, Sundari, Kotehonda Ravi, all from Karnataka, Ramesh from Tamil Nadu, and Jisha from Kerala.

A split suspected

The group moved to Karnataka reportedly following a split in the Maoist groups in Wayanad. However, the police said this was yet to be confirmed.

Meanwhile, several Maoist leaders, who were active across the border in Kerala, were arrested this year.

Sources in the security agencies said that this group was looking to re-establish their base in the Malnad districts of the State. After a long lull, Maoists were spotted in at least five instances in Karnataka since March earlier this year in Dakshina Kannada, Kodagu, Udupi, and Chikkamagaluru districts. Home Minister G. Parameshwara said that combing operations in the area where Vikram was killed, was intensified after the movement of two Maoists Raju and Latha were noticed a week ago.

A senior official overseeing anti-Naxal operations, however, said that Maoists were seen more often in the last few months as the combing operations had been intensified.

Where they were seen

A case was registered in Jayapura police station in Koppa taluk of Chikkamagaluru district on November 12, 2024, following reports on the visit of an armed Maoist group to the house of one Subba Gowda in Kadegundi village. The Anti-Naxal Force seized three single barrel rifles and other ammunition, reportedly abandoned by Maoists, from the house. In the first week of November, Maoists were reported to have visited Idu village, Karkala taluk in Udupi district.

Earlier in March, four armed individuals were reportedly seen in Koojimale near Sampaje on March 17. Days later, suspected Maoists were reportedly spotted near Kukke Subrahmanya in Dakshina Kannada on March 23 and 27. Based on the description given by the villagers, the police suspected them to be Vikram, Vanajakshi, Lata, and John.

Past Maoist encounters

Date	Place	What happened
Nov. 17, 2003	Eedu, Udupi	Suspected Maoists Parvathi and Hazima killed
Feb. 6, 2005	Menasinahadya, Chikkamagaluru	Suspected Maoists Saket Rajan and Shivalingu killed
June 2005	Devarabalu village of Udupi district	Suspected Maoists Ajith Kusubi and Vasant Banakallu killed
Dec. 25, 2006	Kermadi, Shivamogga	Suspected Maoist Naravi Dinakar killed
July 10, 2007	Menasinahadya, Chikkamagaluru	Suspected Maoist Gautham, his two associates and two civilians killed, three policemen injured
Nov. 2008	Mavinaholla, Chikkamagaluru	Three suspected Maoists and a police constable killed
Feb. 28, 2011	Moodlupady, near Hebri in Karkala taluk	Suspected Maoist Vasanth Gowdlu killed and constable Rajesh injured
Sept. 4, 2012	Bisle forest, Dakshina Kannada	Suspected Maoist Yellappa killed

Case was to come up for hearing in court today

Raghava M.
MANGALURU

Maoist leader Vikram Gowda, who died in an encounter on Monday, was among the nine Maoists accused in the murder of 50-year-old bamboo basket weaver Sadashiva Gowda in Hebri in December 2011.

Maoists suspected Sadashiva Gowda to be a police informer. Sadashiva was kidnapped and murdered near Kabbinale in Hebri on December 19, 2011. The police found his body with his hands tied to the trunk of a tree.

Apart from Vikram, Pradeep alias Tungappa, John alias Jayanna, Mundagaru Latha alias Likamma, Sundari alias Geeta, Srimati alias Unnimaya, Suma alias Chennamma, M. Vanajakshi alias Jyothi and Prabha alias Hosagadde Prabha, were named as accused in the murder case registered by the Hebri police.

Accused No. 6 Srimati and suspected Maoist Chandru of Tamil Nadu were arrested following an exchange of fire between Maoists and Kerala police's Thunderbolts special forces team in Thalappuzha in Wayanad district of Kerala on November 8, 2023.

On body warrant, Srimati was produced on February 14, 2024, before Additional Civil Judge and JMFC, Karkala, which permitted police to further question her.

Following submission of chargesheet against Srimati, the court ordered split of the case against Vikram and eight other absconding Maoists. The court was expected to pass an order on Wednesday to commit the case to the District Sessions Court for trial against Srimati.

From Page One

Maoist Vikram Gowda killed in encounter near Hebri in Udupi district

"On a tip-off, a team led by ANF Superintendent of Police, Jithendra Kumar Dayam, raided the place where Vikram and other Maoists had visited on Monday evening to collect groceries. There was an exchange of fire resulting in the death of Gowda while his accomplices escaped," said D. Roopa, Inspector General of Police (Internal Security Division), speaking to journalists near Peetabailu on Tuesday.

"The ANF has intensified combing operations in search of Vikram's associates," she said.

Residents' version

Some Peetabailu residents offered a different account. Speaking to reporters, they claimed ANF personnel evacuated three nearby houses earlier on Monday.

They alleged that Vikram was seen entering a house to collect rations late that evening. Residents said Vikram, realising he was ambushed, opened fire as he was unable to flee quickly. His five aides, including two women who were nearby, managed to escape, while Vikram was killed in the exchange of fire.

'Severed ties'

Vikram's body was moved to the mortuary of a private hospital in Udupi on Tuesday. Kariya Gowda, Vikram's uncle, told reporters he had severed ties with his nephew after the latter joined the Maoist movement.

Offering food to Maoists lands Chikkamagaluru family in trouble

Sathish G.T.
KADEGUNDI (CHIKKAMAGALURU)

Subbe Gowda and Rathnamma of Kadegundi in Koppa taluk of Chikkamagaluru, have been living in fear ever since suspected Maoists came knocking on their doors on November 9. SATHISH G.T.

A sense of fear has gripped the family of Subbe Gowda and Rathnamma of Kadegundi in Koppa taluk of Chikkamagaluru. The aged couple, who till four acres of land in the hilly area, are fed up answering the police for the past few days. They have been facing an ordeal after serving dinner to suspected Maoists, who came knocking on their door.

It all began when four suspected Maoists visited Kadegundi on November 9 night. Of them, two knocked on the doors of Mr. Subbe Gowda's family. The family members were in shock. "We understood who they were," said Ms. Rathnamma. That day she had cooked rice and beetroot sambar. "They left soon after eating," she stated. They were too petrified to refuse them food.

Unexpectedly, the next day, on November 10, the same pattern repeated. The duo came again. Ms. Rathnamma had cooked chicken that day. They had dinner and left at 9 p.m.

A few hours later, around midnight, scores of ANF personnel and policemen reached the spot. The couple were subjected to intense questioning about the two people who had had dinner in their house. The police searched the house, looking for clues about the identity of those who visited.

They collected medicine slips of the family members, enquired about the relatives and those who regularly visit their family. "At least 100 policemen visited our place and searched. We told whatever we knew. We had nothing to hide. We could not refuse them when they asked for food," said Mr. Subbe Gowda.

Since then, many senior officials of ANF, Western Range of Police have visited the place. Combing had been intensified.

According to the police, those who visited the village were Mundagaru Latha and John alias Jayanna. The police say they have confirmed that by showing photos. Two more remained outside at a distance. They did not enter the house. The police seized three single barrel guns from the place.

Latha is a native of Mundagaru, a village about 15 km from Kadegundi. However, Ms. Rathnamma and Mr. Subbe Gowda said they had neither met her before, nor knew her name.

The power supply to villages in Kadegundi and the neighbourhood has been disrupted. Residents allege that the power supply has been cut since the police learnt about Naxal movement in the place. For the last eight days, they had been finding it difficult to spend the dark hours with no power supply.

No Maoist contacted us to join mainstream: Rehabilitation panel

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Despite giving wide publicity to their appeals to Maoists to join the mainstream, none had got in touch, said Banjagere Jayaprakash, a member of the Karnataka State committee to oversee implementation of the rehabilitation policy to surrender/assimilate Left Wing Extremists (LWEs).

However, condemning the killing of Maoist Vikram Gowda near Hebri in Udupi district by the Anti Naxal Force (ANF), he said that 'encounters' are no solution to the issue, and emphasis should instead be on due process of law. He demanded a judicial probe into the incident.

"The understanding was that if any Maoist contacted us and expressed interest to come to the mainstream, we will inform the police and ensure they stop combing operations in the area allowing for safe passage to those activists. Neither Vikram, nor any other activist from Karnataka, contacted us till date," Mr. Jayaprakash said.

Mr. Jayaprakash demanded that the State government stop treating Maoists as 'criminals' and stop the practice of encounters.

Revised policy on rehabilitation

The policy on rehabilitation was first notified in 2015 and a committee led by freedom fighter H.S. Doreswamy, A.K. Subbaiah and the late Gauri Lankesh was formed. A total of 14 Maoists surrendered or assimilated into the mainstream under the policy.

The State government revised the rehabilitation policy in March 2024, increasing the monetary component of the rehabilitation package and reconstituted the committee.

BJP to launch 'our land, our right' campaign

WAQF ROW

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Upping the ante on the episode of the waqf board issuing notices to some farmers and property owners, a process now halted by the government, the Opposition BJP has decided to launch a State-wide campaign titled "Our land, our right" on December 21 and 22, in the middle of the winter session of the State legislature scheduled to be held in Belagavi.

At a press conference in Bengaluru on Tuesday, BJP leader C.N. Ashwath Narayan said the party leaders, workers, and affected farmers would hold a protest in front of the offices of Deputy Commissioners of districts and tahsildars of taluks on those two days against such eviction exercise by the waqf board. The party would also take up the issue in the legislature session, he said.

The BJP has constituted three teams led by its State president B.Y. Vijayendra and Leaders of the Opposition R. Ashok and Chalavadi Narayanaswamy to collect information from people affected, he said. These teams would tour the State from December first week and meet farmers as well as heads of religious institutions and mutts. The party has also formed five-member committees comprising farmers and advocates in all the districts, Mr. Narayan said.

Based on the report from these committees, the party would place the issue before both the Houses of the State legislature during the winter session, he said.

In addition to the two-day State-wide protest, the party would also hold a convention in Belagavi ahead of the legislature session on waqf issue, he said. Mr. Narayan maintained that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had said that no property would be taken over by the waqf board only after the BJP took up the issue effectively.

Winter session to be held from Dec. 9 to 20 in Belagavi

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The winter session of the Karnataka legislature will be held from December 9 to 20 in Belagavi. A notification was issued on Tuesday by Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot.

Presiding officers of both Houses of the State legislature, U.T. Khader and Basavaraj Horatti, visited the Suvarna Soudha in Belagavi where the session would be held to inspect the preparedness.

Govt. withdraws arbitration clause for contracts citing financial burden

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has withdrawn its circular on compulsory arbitration clause for government contracts and tenders on the ground that it was resulting in huge financial burden on the State exchequer.

Law Minister H.K. Patil said at a press conference on Tuesday that now those having disputes in this regard would have to approach courts.

The circular issued by the government on November 16 states: "In exercise of the power conferred under Section 21 of the General Clauses Act, 1897, the circular No. LAVW 273 LAC 2012(p), dated: 10.01.2014 regarding incorporation of 'Arbitration Clause' in government contract/tenders etc. is hereby withdrawn with immediate effect."

Taking serious note of the huge pendency of criminal contempt cases due to non-implementation of court orders by government departments, the Law Department has served an ultimatum to heads of all the departments to bring down the contempt cases to double digit by March 31, Mr. Patil said.

He said at present, 1,006 cases were pending in various departments. Though the situation was better when compared with the earlier regime, when more than 2,500 contempt cases were pending, still there was cause for concern, he said.

The Law Department recently held a meeting with the officials concerned, he said, adding the government was aiming at reducing the pendency to single digit.

All you need to know about the faceless, contactless e-khata system of the BBMP

E-khata simply means electronically approved khata. It may be either 'A' and 'B' khata. The BBMP's 22 lakh manual property khatas were in physical registers

EXPLAINER

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

As the revenue department has made e-khata mandatory for registration of properties it is necessary to secure for those who want to sell the property. K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

The story so far

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) launched e-khata, a digitally-processed khata issuance system on October 1 for the citizens of the State capital. Under this, the property owners have to first download the draft of e-khata from www.bbmpeAasthi.karnataka.gov.in. The draft of e-khata can be searched using the name of the property owner. After downloading the draft, the applicants should submit the required document. The system then electronically gives approval for the property owners to secure final e-khata. So far, more than 6 lakh drafts have been downloaded by the property owners.

What is e-khata

E-khata simply means electronically approved khata. It may be either 'A' and 'B' khata. The BBMP's 22 lakh manual property khatas were in physical registers. The same has been digitised and draft khatas are uploaded online. As the Revenue Department has made e-khata mandatory for registration of properties it is necessary to secure it for those who want to sell the property. At this juncture, it is not necessary that everyone has to download the same as securing this is not made mandatory.

BBMP head office in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

Before downloading the final document, the owners will get a draft. The draft is the online e-khatas put out by the BBMP by digitising the basic property information. The draft khata has details about the name of the owner, property identification number, assessment number, ward name and village name. The owners have to upload other required details.

Purpose of e-khata

According to BBMP Special Commissioner (Revenue), Munish Moudgil this is one of the largest digital property ownership management systems in India. This is faceless and contactless, will bring transparency, integrated with sub-registrars, automatic mutations and has a blockchain enabled system.

The aim is to make a single source of truth of property and land records, automatic property tax system, automatic mutation based on Aadhaar and eliminate corruption in procuring khata permanently.

Name confusion and how it can be resolved

Unable to find property information when searching by typing the owner's name on the website to download a draft of e-khata? The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike says there are multiple reasons for the same and has devised a redressal mechanism.

Many users are complaining that they are struggling to find the draft as their property details are not popping when names are typed on the search column.

According to a senior BBMP official there are multiple reasons for the same. Majority of the owners are unable to find the details owing to their inability to put the correct spelling - be it in Kannada or English. The officer said about 80% fall in this bracket. This can be resolved with a call to helpdesk or visiting BengaluruOne Centre. In these cases, the help desk personal or data entry person at the centre finds the details in mere two or three searches.

Other reasons are, wrong mismatch of name, digital error, pending mutation after the sale, pending mutation after inheritance. These cases will be referred to ARO and he has to resolve them within 10 days electronically.

What are the details property owners should upload

The citizens to secure final e-khata have to do Aadhaar eKYC, upload GPS of property, photo of property, registered sale deed number, Bescom meter number.

Uploading Encumbrance Certificate of property from April 1, 2004, is optional. But for the registration of the property EC is mandatory.

Most of the documents will be fetched electronically. These documents are sale deed after 2004, property tax detail and Bescom number. Once these details are fed electronically then software itself verifies all documents and automatically issues final e-khata. For the final e-khata the owners should pay ₹125 online to the BBMP.

In case a citizen does not have any of the above documents then the option to physically meet Assistant Revenue Officer (ARO) is available for processing the final e-khata as per the rules. A seven-day objection period is also available on the published draft and citizens can file objections and not issue the final document. The same will be heard by the ARO and will be decided on the merit. If the property owners are unable to apply online on their own then they can approach BengaluruOne Centre. The owners have to carry property tax receipt, registered sale deed, Aadhaar of all the owners, Bescom bill, BWSSB bill (if property has Cauvery water connection), layout or site approval by the BDA or planning authority, building plan approval by the BBMP, DC conversion (if this document is available) and allotment letter by BDA or Karnataka Housing Board or any government agency (if it's applicable for the owners).

The owners need not have to submit these documents to the centre but they have to show them to upload details and then carry them back.

Soon the BBMP will authorise the local private enterprises or cyber cafes to provide this service at a fixed price to the citizens. There are more than 50,000 LPS in Bengaluru. For this service the owners have to pay a nominal fee of ₹45 fee to the centre in addition to ₹5 per page for scanning the documents. Apart from this fee, the owners should pay ₹125 online to the BBMP.

Aadhaar is not mandatory

Those who do not have Aadhaar can also secure e-khata. For this category of owners they have to submit a passport or driving licence or voter ID card as identity document plus a photograph in lieu of Aadhaar.This option is available only in in-person mode at ARO office. Other required documents are registered deed number, property tax SAS number Bescom 10-digit account ID. The other documents remain unchanged.

Climate festival inaugurated at Azim Premji University

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The festival will bring together students, artists, NGOs, young professionals, and community members under one roof.

The third edition of Azim Premji University's (APU) annual climate festival - Mountains of Life - was inaugurated on Tuesday on its Bengaluru campus. The festival which is a celebration of mountains consists of an ensemble of art installations and photographs captured by interns along with music, movies, artefacts, interactive workshops and more.

The university had selected a cohort of student interns who travelled across the country and documented a wide range of stories for the festival, "from tales of co-existence between humans and nature in Savandurga and Chamundi Hill to the journey of the Nyishi community of Arunachal Pradesh trying to strike a balance between tradition and modernity," APU said.

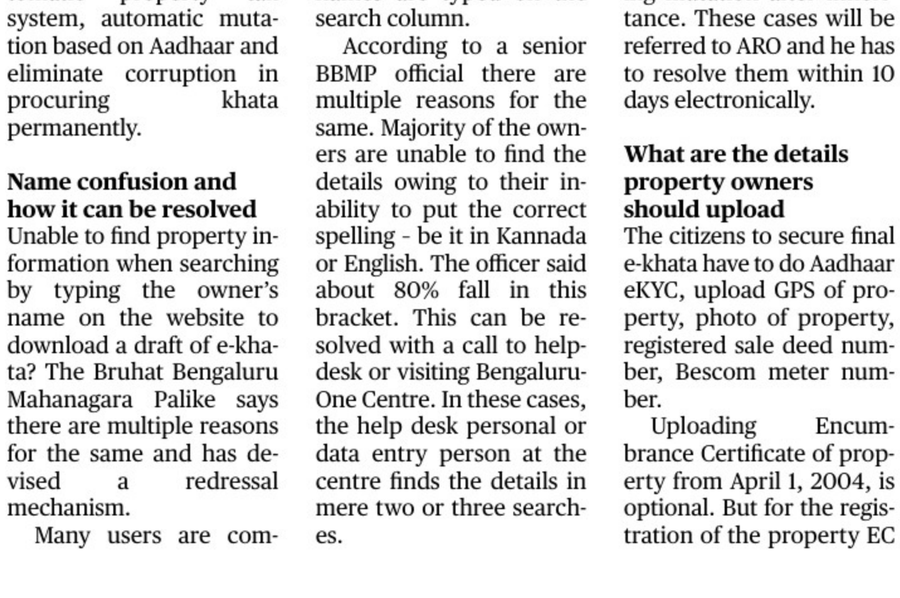
The 14-day trilingual (English - Kannada - Hindi) festival will provide diverse perspectives from urban dwellers and indigenous communities and explore the idea of mountains with students from different parts of the country. The festival will bring together students, artists, NGOs, teachers, young professionals and community members under one roof, providing a platform for local communities to share their experiences of living and working in the mountains.

"The third edition of our annual climate festival brings stories from our mountains to life. The event highlights our deep relationship with mountains and the urgent need to conserve our mountains better," said Harini Nagendra, Director, Research Centre and School of Climate Change and Sustainability, APU, Bengaluru.

IISc and University College London to work together in healthcare

The universities seek to co-create significant new research capability together in areas across basic and clinical sciences, applied engineering and clinical practice

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU



Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru . FILE PHOTO

The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and University College London (UCL) have signed a Letter of Intent to facilitate closer collaboration with IISc's forthcoming postgraduate medical school across research, education, innovation and commercialisation.

IISc said that the letter, signed at the IISc campus on November 18, will underpin a new and exciting phase for UCL and IISc partnership as the universities seek to co-create significant new research capability together in areas across basic and clinical sciences, applied engineering and clinical practice.

"We are delighted to build on our collaborations with UCL to carry out cutting-edge research in new and emerging areas. UCL and IISc's joint efforts will also empower education and innovation in medical research and healthcare, which ties in with our efforts to build world-class post-graduate programmes at our upcoming medical school," Prof. Govindan Rangarajan, director, IISc, said. "UCL shares IISc's commitment to empowering and bringing together researchers from across disciplines to solve today's most pressing challenges. This next phase of our partnership will create significant new joint research capability in healthcare focused AI, quantum tech and robotics, and develop educational collaborations to train the physicians of the future," Dr. Michael Spence, president and provost, UCL, added

UCL and IISc will create a joint working group to explore several potential collaborative initiatives across future-focused interdisciplinary areas such as digital health, quantum health, AI and medicine.

IISc said that the partners hope that the framework will lead to new programmes, leveraged together through external funding, such as collaborative PhDs, sharing health systems best practices, faculty exchange and research fellowships.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 20, 1974

Agro-industries Corporation Unit in Davangere

Bangalore: The Agro Industries Corporation has begun opening its subsidiary complexes outside its headquarters in Bangalore.

The Agro complex opened yesterday in Davangere, seeks to provide a variety of services under one roof, agro-engineering sales and servicing of tractors, workshop, sale of fertilizers, seeds insecticides and spare parks.

Declaring open the complex, the Agriculture Minister, Mr. N. Chikke Gowda, asked farmers of the area to derive the fullest benefit of the complex.

The Minister gave away 2,511 tractors to farmers on the occasion.

Mr. D.B. Powar, Chairman of the Corporation, who addressed the gathering, said similar complexes would be opened in the other district and taluk headquarters towns.

CM on Need to Control Population

Shimoga: The Chief Minister of Karnataka, Dr. D. Devaraj Urs, laying the foundation-stone for the Rs. 4.5 lakh 24 sterlisation ward at the primary health centre at Hosanagara 60 km from here. Under the auspices of the India Population project, stressed the need for controlling population explosion to eradicate poverty in the country. He said the Government was also giving priority for construction of long-range projects like dams for irrigation and generating electricity which were vital for the future generation. Mr. Sheeranalli Chandrasekhar, MLA, presided.

Conquering hearts Jaskaran with Golden Star Ganesh and (below) with composer Arjun Janya. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Meet the new hearthrob of Karnataka, turbaned Jaskaran Singh, who has taken Kannada playback singing by storm

A strong bond with Kannada

Shilpa Anandraj

At a time when Kannadigas are facing flak virtually, including being called 'racists', a new love story between a Sikh and Kanndigas was building on another side. This is the bond between a singer from Ludhiana, Jaskaran Singh, and the people of Karnataka. Jaskaran became a household name in Karnataka with his famed song 'Dwapara' from the hit film, *Krishnam Pranaya Sakhi,* composed by Arjun Janya. The song not only brought Golden Star Ganesh back into the spotlight from the wings, but also catapulted Jaskaran into a household name.

Jaskaran is a Sikh, trained in Hindustani music, who effortlessly and fluently croons romantic melodies in Kannada, with perfect diction and pronunciation! The singer is, today, one of the most sought-after playback singers in the Kannada film industry and is all set for the release of his next release *Anshu* on November 21. Jaskaran has sung the song 'Neenu Nambo Naale', composed and arranged by KC Balasarangan. The film is written and directed by MC Channakeshava, while the song is picturised on the lead character, Nisha Ravikrishnan (of *Gattimela* fame).

This song, too, like 'Dwapara' has gone viral and Jaskaran's place is sealed in the land of Karnataka and its cinematic kingdom. The actor, who is busy promoting the film with the team, talks to us about music, films and his love for Kannada from his residence in Banashankari.

Anshu with Nisha, Jaskaran says: "feels great, because a few years ago we performed together for *Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Kannada*. I was a contestant and Nisha was a celebrity artiste. Together, we sang the famous song, 'Ondu Mallebillu'. Our duet went viral at that time, and now, again years later, to be singing a song picturised on Nisha, feels great," says Jaskaran, who was noticed on the very show by composer Arjun Janya, who was a judge on the reality show; he offered Jaskaran the song 'Dwapara' and the rest is history.

"'Neenu Nambo Naale' also was offered by the director of *Anshu* after he saw the same performance of mine and he reached out to me in January this year. 'Neenu Nambo Naale' is very different from 'Dwapara' when it comes to the mood and execution of the song itself. 'Dwapara' is a romantic-fun song, while 'Neenu Nambo Naale' is intense and loaded with emotions. It talks about a moment when one is betrayed by everyone and feels very alone. As the mood on screen is intense, I too had to sing with equal intensity. That was the challenge for *Anshu,*" says the singer, who is a fan of Diljit Dosanjh and Arjun Janya.

"I have been a huge fan of Diljit since I was a child and believe he is a great artiste, while Arjun sir draws me with his music style; he composes the types of song I have always dreamed of singing. Besides that, he also gave me my first break with 'Dwapara', so he will always be special."

Jaskaran has sung songs in Tamil and Telugu and "singing in a new language has its own challenges. I listen to the words, tune and the song quite a few times to understand the emotion and the storyline in which the song is set. I also sit with someone and learn the diction and only then dive into the singing part. If I sing a song in Hindi or Punjabi in minutes, singing in Kannada, Tamil or Telugu takes me a lot more time with all the prepreps," says Jaskaran, who never dreamt he would become a celebrity playback singer in Kannada films.

"It all started with me venturing into the Tamil *Sa Re Ga Ma Pa,* which got a great response and led me to doing stage shows abroad. I was doing well, then COVID hit and my singing took a backseat." Post this, he sang Telugu songs, but nothing prepared him for the fame that awaited him post 'Dwapara'.

> Every language in India is beautiful, and knowing to speak more than one language only becomes a plus point for us.
>
> **JASKARAN SINGH**
> SINGER AND PLAYBACK ARTISTE

This song did well even beyond the boundaries of Karnataka with social media influencers in India and abroad making the song go viral with reels and the signature dance steps by Ganesh in the film! Earlier, the singer shuttled between his home in Ludhiana and Bengaluru, but in May this year, he shifted base to Bengaluru and lives in Banashankari now.

Though he is doing well in Punjabi, Hindi and other languages, "I want to focus 100% on Kannada music as I have received so much love here. I am also learning to speak Kannada and feel this is my way to honour the people here for the love they give me. I have lived across the country, but have not seen the kind of love people of Karnataka have towards their language and culture. This is really special and makes me feel good too."

In fact, Jaskaran has become such a huge celebrity in Karnataka that people have given him the title – Jas Kannada. "I feel humbled and am currently making a musical album also titled 'Jas Kannada', which I plan to release in the near future."

He adds: "We Indians are lucky that we have so many languages and cultures to discover and live with. Instead of feeling threatened, I believe we should love the diversity as we are the only country that is so diverse. There is no harm in learning the language of the place you live in. I do not see any problem in this as this only honours the place we live in. Every language in India is beautiful, and knowing to speak more than one language only becomes a plus point for us."

All for one and one for all

Ruth Dhanaraj

Back in Bengaluru after a five-year break, the Grace Hopper Celebration India (GHCI) 2024 brings immersive workshops, an array of speakers and industry leaders, providing participants with career guidance and a platform to showcase their strengths over three days. Organised by AnitaB.org India, this industry fest is a call for celebrating, inspiring and empowering women and non-binary technologists.

In 1987, Anita Borg, a computer scientist, started a digital community for women, which gradually evolved into an organisation for women in technology. As of today, AnitaB.org has a presence in more than 50 countries. Shreya Krishnan, Managing Director of AnitaB.org India, shares how the fest is back in India this year.

"Though we shut down in India during the pandemic, events continued to take place in the United States, which is our headquarters. This year, we decided to come back to India with full fervour for various reasons," says Shreya.

"Most importantly, it was for the women and non-binary people in technology and adjacent to technology and impacted by technology that we represent. Secondly, work needs to happen to make sure that inclusion is contextual around the world. In India, inclusion is way more nuanced as it includes communities, intersectionality, feminism and other facets."

"The LGBTQIA and nonbinary spectrum is quite underserved as a community in India, and the GHCI is one of the many things AnitaB does to ensure it happens," she adds.

Better together Glimpses of previous editions of GHCI, Shreya Krishnan with Brenda Wilkerson, CEO of AnitaB (above). SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Shreya says this time around, the GHCI will be a much larger event than it was five years ago. "There are 10 different live stages and six deep learning tracks. Apart from this, there will also be an innovation showcase lounge as well as an unconference area, book nook, art nook, and a Zen zone. The entire event has been designed as a self-transformative experience."

The theme for this year's edition of GHCI 24 is 'me+we', celebrating the collective power of women and non-binary technologists, focussing on wellness, diversity, and inclusion, especially of LGBTQIA+ and nonbinary voices.

The event focuses a lot on STEAM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math – and in keeping with this, there will be performances, conversations, storytelling, and sessions on careers and leadership. "We also have an executive track that focuses on people who want to move up the ladder in terms of their leadership roles. This approach to interdisciplinary learning is happening for the first time with us," adds Shreya.

As of now, GHCI 2024 has representation from over 208 different cities, says Shreya. Day One of the event will conclude with a pre-Pride March at the venue as well as a special line-up of speakers curated by Maya Bazaar, while Day Two will come to a close with an in-person conversation with actor Bhumi Pednekar. The grand finale is a concert by Usha Uthup, Sushant Divgikar (Rani KoHEnur) and Bengaluru's Carlton Braganza.

The schedule for GHCI's tech tracks include AI & ML, data science, cloud, cyber security & IoT, and a special media track on diversity in communication.

GHCI will take place at the Bangalore International Centre from November 20-22. Log on to anitabindia.org to register and for more details.

What lies within Stills from *Equus*, Sukrit Mahajan (below). SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Exploring the shadows

Praveen Sudevan

Why should art delve into the murky, uncomfortable corners of the human psyche? According to Sukrit Mahajan, the director of *Equus* (reimagined by Playhouse Production), theatre is not just about entertainment – it's about holding a mirror to the deepest parts of ourselves.

Few plays embody this philosophy as profoundly as Peter Shaffer's *Equus*, a searing psychological drama that lays bare the entangled forces of obsession, shame, and desire. First staged in 1973, *Equus* tells the story of Alan Strang, a teenager whose inexplicable act of violence – blinding six horses – sets the stage for an exploration of faith, repression, and the fragility of the human mind. Now, Sukrit brings this Tony-winning classic to Indian audiences, using shadow theatre and a profoundly personal lens to illuminate the shadows within.

"The first play I ever acted in was *Equus*," Sukrit recalls, reflecting on his college days. "It changed the trajectory of my life and career. Revisiting it as my debut production with Playhouse Productions felt like coming full circle."

This deeply personal connection, paired with Sukrit's training at Drama School Mumbai, infuses his adaptation with fresh interpretations. Drawing inspiration from Carl Jung's theory of the 'shadow self,' Sukrit examines the repressed parts of the psyche – those hidden, shameful truths we suppress even from ourselves. "Every character in *Equus* has a shadow self," Sukrit explains, "It's not just Alan or his psychiatrist Dr Martin Dysart. That's what makes the play universal and deeply human."

To bring this to life, Sukrit employs shadow theatre, a visual metaphor for the characters' concealed desires and fears. "Whenever a character's shadow self is explored, it's staged in the shadows, emphasising its intangible yet omnipresent nature," says Sukrit.

This innovative staging (also the USP of this restaging of *Equus* is paired with a haunting soundscape of church organs, evoking the play's themes of faith and fervour. "The music was a deliberate choice," Sukrit notes, "Given the play's ties to religion and Christianity, the church organ felt like the perfect auditory metaphor."

Sukrit hopes *Equus* will leave audiences questioning not just the characters' choices but their own buried fears and desires. "The play is, in many ways, a love story," he reckons, "It's about the extremes to which passion can drive us, the thin line between worship and obsession."

Equus will be staged at Medai - The Stage in Koramangala on November 22 (7.30pm) and at Jagriti Theatre, Whitefield on November 23 (3.30pm and 7.30pm). Tickets on BookMyShow.

CITYBEATS

A solo show

NOVEMBER 23

Abstract Contemplations, an art show curated by Shirley Matthew, features the works of Amarnath MS. With a BFA (painting) from Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, MFA (painting) from MSU, Baroda, Amarnath is also the winner of the Karnataka State Lalit kala Academi Award and Mysore Dasara Award, among other accomplishments.
At MKF Museum of Art till December 8.

Paw-fect world

NOVEMBER 23, 24

ITC Nimyle has teamed up with PetFed, to host a two-day carnival, featuring events for your furry friends. Apart from a security dog show, fashion show, talent show, carnival antics and other stage activities, visitors can also visit the ITC Nimyle booth at PetFed. Nimyle created with neem extracts is said to be safe for both children and animals
At Jaymahala Palace, 11am to 9pm.

Rangapravesha

NOVEMBER 23

Suchetha Kalluraya, a student of Dr Raksha Karthik, will be presenting her Bharatanatyam Rangapravesha. The dancer has completed her Madhyama Pratham dance exam from Gandharva University and is awaiting her Madhyama Poorna (senior level) results. She is also into writing poetry and short stories. The event is open to all.
At JSS Auditorium, 8th Block, Jayanagar, 5pm.

Siddique

Actor Siddique should be let out on bail if arrested in sex abuse case: SC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday ordered that Malayalam film actor Siddique, in the event of arrest in a sexual abuse case, should be released on bail subject to the condition that he deposit his passport before the trial court concerned and cooperate with the investigation.

A Bench of Justices Bela M. Trivedi and S.C. Sharma allowed his appeal for relief in the case filed on a complaint by a woman that she was raped in a hotel by the veteran actor in 2016.

The court said it did not want to assign any elaborate reasons for reaching its conclusion considering the sensitive nature of the case.

However, the Bench referred to the fact that the woman took eight years to file a complaint and the complainant had not approached the Justice Hema Committee, which was enquiring into allegations of sexual abuse in the film industry, with her grievance.

'LIC reduced to a propaganda tool for Hindi imposition'

Stalin demands rollback of 'linguistic tyranny'. DMK Parliamentary Party leader Kanimozhi, AIADMK general secretary Palaniswami, TNCC chief Selvaperunthagai criticise the insurance firm

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Tuesday alleged that the online portal of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), a public sector entity, had been reduced to a propaganda tool for Hindi imposition.

In a social media post, Mr. Stalin referred to a media report about the use of Hindi on the LIC portal, and pointed out that even the option to select English as the language was displayed in Hindi. "This is nothing but cultural and language imposition by force, trampling on India's diversity. LIC grew with the patronage of all Indians. How dare it betray the majority of its contributors," Mr. Stalin asked.

The Chief Minister demanded the immediate rollback of what he termed "linguistic tyranny".

The Chief Minister pointed out that even the option to select English as the language was displayed in Hindi.

Plea to Finance Minister

DMK Parliamentary Party leader Kanimozhi on Tuesday urged Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to address issues related to accessibility and user experience of the official website of the LIC, a vital public sector undertaking that falls under the Union Minister's purview.

In a letter to Ms. Sitharaman, Ms. Kanimozhi pointed out that the LIC's website had recently adopted Hindi as the default language. "While users are provided an option to switch to English, the functionality appears to be inconsistent, as several users have reported that the website continues to display content in Hindi even after selecting English. This issue has caused inconvenience, particularly to non-Hindi-speaking users, who rely on the website for essential insurance-related services," Ms. Kanimozhi said.

Ms. Kanimozhi said that considering the diverse linguistic landscape of the country, it was imperative that public service platforms maintain a user-friendly, multilingual interface, ensuring equal accessibility to all citizens.

Tamil Nadu Congress Committee (TNCC) president K. Selvaperunthagai on Tuesday criticised the decision to make the website of the LIC appear predominantly in Hindi.

In a statement, Mr. Selvaperunthagai said that the decision rubbed salt into an open wound, considering how the BJP government at the Centre had consistently tried to impose Hindi and Sanskrit. "We have already been vehemently opposing the imposition of Hindi in various sectors such as the Union Public Service Commission, postal services, telecommunications, and railways. For non-Hindi-speakers, India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru provided assurances, and subsequent Prime Ministers Lal Bahadur Shastri and Indira Gandhi reinforced these promises by amending the Official Languages Act to offer legal protection to non-Hindi speakers," the TNCC leader said.

LIC's response

Meanwhile, the insurance company said that the option of English was not appearing due to a "technical issue", which had been resolved.

In a post on X, formerly Twitter, LIC said, "Our corporate website was not shuffling the language page due to some technical problem. The issue is resolved now, and the website is available in English/Hindi language. Inconvenience caused is deeply regretted."

Officials to collect antiques from Lakkundi residents

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As part of efforts to develop the historical Lakkundi village in Gadag district of North Karnataka into a World Heritage Site, the Departments of Archaeology and Tourism as well as district administration are set to take up door-to-door visits on November 24 to collect historical/antique articles from residents.

Announcing this at a press conference in Bengaluru on Tuesday, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil, who also holds tourism portfolio, said the authorities would make an appeal to residents to give historical articles, including palm leaves, inscriptions, and statues.

He said the articles would be preserved in a museum or used for conservation and restoration of archaeological sites. He pointed out that some historical pillars were being used by people here for tying cattle as they were unaware of the importance. The authorities would now try to create awareness among them about the need to conserve such historical articles, he noted. Similarly, there were historical inscriptions in the fields of farmers of this village.

Explaining the historical importance of Lakkundi, he said, the village, which was an important city in 10th Century of economic importance with minting operations.

184 polling stations ready for bypoll in Palakkad

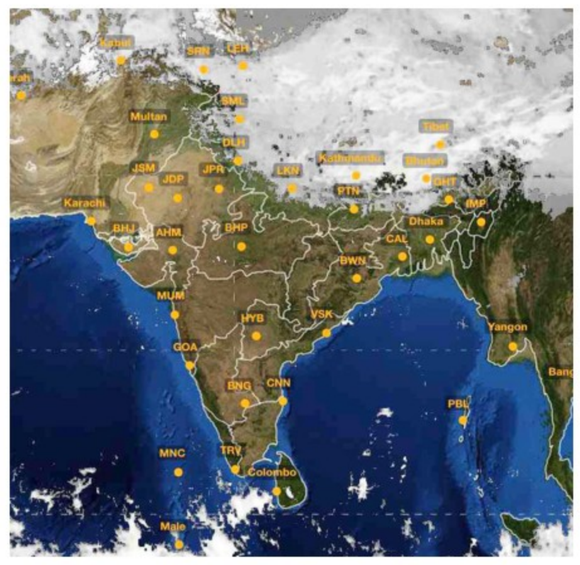
The Hindu Bureau
PALAKKAD

Nearly 1.94 lakh voters are expected to reach the polling stations in Palakkad on Wednesday as the constituency goes to polls to elect a member to replace Shafi Parambil in the Assembly. The byelection in Palakkad was necessitated following Mr. Parambil's election to the Lok Sabha from Vadakara.

Polling will begin at 7 a.m. and continue till 6 p.m. As many as 184 polling stations have been arranged in the constituency spread across Palakkad municipality and the panchayats of Mathur, Kannadi and Pirayiri. There are 194,706 voters in Palakkad, 100,290 of them women. As many as 2,306 voters are above 80 years of age, 780 differently abled, and four transgenders. Counting will take place on Saturday.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Thunderstorm accompanied with hail/lightning likely at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala, Mahe and Lakshadweep. Dense fog likely in isolated pockets of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Chandigarh, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	30.6	16.6	Kozhikode	—	35.1	27.5
Ahmedabad	—	31.5	19.7	Kurnool	—	31.7	20.4
Aizawl	—	28.1	16.3	Lucknow	—	26.9	15.6
Allahabad	—	28.8	15.8	Madurai	0.5	30.7	24.1
Bengaluru	—	27.4	19.3	Mangaluru	—	33.0	24.6
Bhopal	—	26.6	14.0	Mumbai	—	30.0	19.0
Bhubaneswar	—	29.7	16.1	Mysuru	—	29.2	18.0
Chandigarh	—	27.0	11.2	New Delhi	—	25.4	12.3
Chennai	—	30.8	25.7	Patna	—	28.3	18.1
Coimbatore	—	29.2	22.8	Port Blair	—	31.0	26.3
Dehradun	—	27.6	10.2	Puducherry	—	30.1	23.6
Gangtok	—	17.3	11.4	Pune	—	32.0	17.4
Goa	—	34.0	24.0	Raipur	—	30.4	16.2
Guwahati	—	30.4	16.9	Ranchi	—	26.0	13.0
Hubballi	—	30.0	17.0	Shillong	—	23.3	9.5
Hyderabad	—	29.2	15.8	Shimla	—	20.2	8.2
Imphal	—	27.2	10.1	Srinagar	—	15.7	0.4
Jaipur	—	27.0	13.8	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.2	25.4
Kochi	—	32.0	25.8	Tiruchi	—	30.8	24.2
Kohima	—	19.8	10.7	Vijayawada	—	30.4	21.2
Kolkata	—	29.0	17.0	Visakhapatnam	—	31.1	21.8

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	5	12	25	198	149	
Bengaluru	17	33	58	160	104	
Chennai	16	30	35	263	151	
Delhi	23	130	105	465	446	
Hyderabad	7	102	45	170	152	
Kolkata	9	97	31	224	178	
Lucknow	6	36	97	358	359	
Mumbai	7	142	35	93	132	
Pune	12	31	200	239	131	
Visakhapatnam	8	68	42	135	147	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Delhi recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 460 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 29

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that our client intends to purchase Residential Corner **Site No.401/A,** presently bearing BBMP Khata No.401/A, PID No.100-767-401/A measuring East to West (16.50+22.60)/2 Mts. And North to South 21.35 Mts. totally measuring **417.39 Sq. Mts,** situated at **R.M.V, 2nd Stage Extension, 24th Block, Bangalore** and bounded on :

East by : 4th Main Road;
West by : House No. 402;
North by : 10th Cross Road;
South by : House Nos. 401 and 400

From its Owner **Mr. Sundaresh Venkat Ramayya @ Sundaresh Ramaiah, Son of Late. Mr. H. S. Venkataramaiah.**

Persons having any rights over the said property may lodge their objections / claims with documentary evidence within 7 days from the date of this publication to the undersigned.

Adv. Geetha Halliyal,
TAVISA LEGAL Advocates
42 High Street, No.775, 2nd Floor,
100 feet Road, Indiranagar,
Bangalore-560038, Ph : 9980519476
email : geethahalliyal@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client is desirous of purchasing all that piece and parcel of Site No.30 presently bearing PID No. 55-669-30 admeasuirng E'W 40 feet and N'S 60 feet, i.e., 2400 square feet, located in BDA approved private layout formed in Survey No. 130/1 (old Survey No.71), **Katthirguppe Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk,** hereinafter referred to as **"Schedule Property".** It is hereby understood by us that **Mr. JS Divakar son of JS Venkatachalaiah** is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property.

Notice is hereby given to the general public that any person/s or banks asserting any right, title, charge, lien, claim/s or any interest whatsoever with respect to the Schedule Property are hereby called upon to submit to the undersigned, their claim/s, if any over the Schedule Property. The said claim/s or objections must be in writing together with any documentary proof of such claim/s or objections and is to be submitted to the undersigned within a period of **15 (fifteen) days** from the date of publication of this Notice. If no such claim/s objections are received, it shall be deemed that no one else other than the Owner has/have any right, title, interest or claim/s to the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of **Site No.30** presently bearing PID No. 55-669-30 admeasuirng E'W 40 feet and N'S 60 feet, i.e., **2400 square feet,** located in BDA approved private layout formed in Survey No. 130/1 (old Survey No.71), **Katthirguppe Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk,** bounded on:-

East by : Site No.31; West by : Site No.29; North by : Government Land; South by : Road;

Sreedevi Nadig, Advocate
Nadig Legal
No.20, Bhudevi, 33rd main,
Banagiri Hills, Bengaluru 560085
(+91 9916446858)
sreedevi.a.nadig@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that our client intends to purchase below described properties, situated at **Nallurahalli Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk.**

Item No.1: Site No. 6, presently within limits of BBMP (earlier Khata No. 52-52/2-4) measuring East 47' 6", West 47' 6", North 99' and South 97' totally measuring **4655 square feet,** together with a building, and bounded on the

East by : Private Property;
West by : 20 feet Road;
North by : Site No.7;
South by : Site No.5.

From its Owners **Mrs. Komal Uppal and Mr. Madanlal Amarnath Uppal**

Item No.2: Site No. 7, presently within limits of BBMP (earlier Khata No. 52-52/2-4) measuring on the East 46'3", West 46'3" North 99' 6" and South 99' totally measuring **4590 square feet,** together with a building, and bounded on the

East by : Private Property;
West by : 20 feet Road;
North by : Site No.8;
South by : Site No.6.

From its Owner **Mr. Madanlal Amarnath Uppal.**

Item No.3: Site No. 8, presently within limits of BBMP (earlier Khata No. 52-52/2-5) measuring on the East 40'6", West 42' North 118'9" and South 119'6" totally measuring **4914 square feet,** together with a building, and bounded on the

East by : Private Property;
West by : Private Property;
North by : Private Property;
South by : Site No.7 and 20 feet Road;

From its Owner **Mr. Yashpal Levin.**

Persons having any right over the said property may lodge their objections / claims with documentary evidence within **7 days** from the date of this publication, to the undersigned.

Adv. Geetha Halliyal,
TAVISA LEGAL Advocates
42 High Street, No.775, 2nd Floor,
100 feet Road, Indiranagar,
Bangalore-560038, Ph : 9980519476
email : geethahalliyal@gmail.com

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
SECOND CORRIGENDUM

Tender Notice No: SNT-PROJ-JU-05-2024-25, **In the above cited tender notice following corrigendum is issued :** Railway reply on Prebid queries-(1) Prebid queries reply. (In PDF) (2) SNT/SOR/Sep-2020 (3) Approved SIP of 14 stations and tentative SIP of Barmer station. (4) Resetting Mechanism. The others terms and conditions in the original tender will remain unchanged.

Dy. CSTE/Project Office
NWR, Jodhpur
1329-DK/24

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client is intending to purchase the schedule mentioned property from its owner **Smt. Pillamma @ Pillakka, D/o. Late. Narasimhaiah, W/o. Sri. Ramaiah@ Ramappa, aged about 81 years, r/at. No.8, Kommasandra Village, Dommasandra Post, Sarjapur Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District- 562125.** The owner has represented that the schedule property is free from all encumbrances. Be it known, that if any person/s having any objections in respect of the schedule property they shall lodge their claim/objections with documentary proof to the undersigned within **7 (Seven) days** from the date of publication of this notice. In the absence of receipt of any legally, valid claim/objections within the aforesaid period, my client will proceed with the purchase of the schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of the immovable property **bearing New Sy.No.101/12, old Sy.No. 101/5, measuring 10 (Ten) Guntas out of 1 (one) acre 04 (four) Guntas,** situated at **Ittanguru Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urabn District** and bounded on:

EAST BY : Road & Krishnappa Share Land, WEST BY : Thippa Reddy, Buddappa & Jagadish Land, NORTH BY : Narayanappa Share Land, SOUTH BY : Road & I.S. Krishnamurthy land.

K. Mohan, Advocate,
No.64, 4th Cross, INDIRANAGAR
2ND STAGE, BANGALORE-560 038
Mobile. No. 9845234925
Bangalore Dated : 19-11-2024

ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL
K KAMARAJ ROAD, BANGALORE-42
Tele No : 080-25581238
www.apsbangalore.edu.in

LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION – 30 NOV 2024 (1000HRS)

TENDERS ARE INVITED FOR THE WORK/SUPPLY/INSTALLATION AT ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL, K KAMARAJ ROAD, BANGALORE-42

Tender No	Description of Work
APS/234/2024-25	Renovation of the Existing School Entrance Gate
APS/235/2024-25	Laying of Vitrified tiles in Office Complex (Kajaria)
APS/236/2024-25	Wardrobe with Loft for Office (Greenply with turmeric & water proof)
APS/237/2024-25	Heavy duty color photocopier machine for Printing of Marks Card (Exam Centre)
APS/238/2024-25	Addl Compactor for Office
NOTE	1. Please submit sealed quotation super scribed on the envelope **"TENDER FOR_____"** to reach at ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL, KAMARAJ ROAD, BANGALORE on or before **30 Nov 2024** by 1000hrs. 2. **Open Tendering two Bid system should be followed :-** **(a) Technical Bid -** (i) Separate envelope, mentioning the Tender No (ii) GST No & PAN Details (iii) Company Registration Certificate (iv) Previous year IT Return Filing Certificate (v) Colour photographs of similar project done (vi) Plan and colour sketch of the project. **(b) Financial Bid** - Separate envelope, mentioning the Tender No 3. Vendors are advise to visit the site before putting the quotation.

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TIRUNELVELI CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Opposite to Exhibition Ground
S.N. High Road, Tirunelveli - 627 001, Tamil Nadu.

E3/2443/2020 **Tender Notice No.21/2024-25**

Sealed Tenders are invited from the eligible bidders for the below mentioned work taken under financial assistance from German Development Bank(KfW) assisted Sustainable Municipal Infrastructure Financing in Tamil Nadu Phase – III. Single Stage two envelope e-bidding procedure is to be followed. A pre bid meeting will be held on **16.12.2024** at **11.00 am** in main office meeting hall in Tirunelveli Corporation. To obtain the bidding documents from **25.11.2024 10.00 am** to **09.01.2025, 3.00 pm** visit website **www.tntenders.gov.in** The last date for downloading the tender document and the last date for uploading/submission of filled up tender document is up to **3.00 pm** on **09.01.2025.** The received tenders will be opened at **3.30 pm** on **09.01.2025.** Further to obtain further information bidders should contact The Executive Engineer, Tirunelveli City Municipal Corporation (9442201331) and any information regarding prebid meeting send to **commr.tirunelveli@tn.gov.in**

S. No	Name of Work	Value put to tender Rs. In lakhs
1	Design, Engineering, Build And Commissioning Of 58.00 MLD Capacity of Sewage Treatment Plant at Ramayanpatti With Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR) Including Operation And Maintenance For Ten Years at Ramayanpatti, Tirunelveli City Municipal Corporation.	9344.00

DIPR/ 5011 /TENDER/2024

Commissioner
Tirunelveli City Municipal Corporation

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL,MLI Division No-2 Babaleshwar- 586 113.
Phone: 08355-200020 E-mail ID: eemli2babaleshwar@gmail.com

No: KBJNL/MLID-2/PB-4/MLI-Stage-III/D-15 & 15th A & B/2024-25/811 Date:16.11.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP Portal Only)

On behalf of the Managing Director, KBJNL, Bangalore, the Executive Engineer, KBJNL MLI Division No.2 Babaleshwar, under signed invites two cover system tenders **on percentage basis & Turnkey basis** respectively from eligible contractor for the works of 1] "Construction of **Distributary-15** and its canal network under Babaleshwar Branch Canal -1 for Providing Irrigation facilities to 5309.00 Ha under Mulwad LIS Stage–III **[Indent No.1271]"** Amount for **Rs.10295.27 Lakhs** and 2] Survey, Investigation, Preparation of Design & Drawings, Installation, Testing and commissioning of Lift system comprising of Pumping machinery, Pump house electrical works, substation bringing power from nearest HESCOM sub station, MS rising main, Manifold type DC, Gravity distribution network with Sluice valves, Butterfly valves, Flow Meters, Discharge Control Meters, Air valves and Scour valves for providing Irrigable Command Area of 4,062 Ha in Babaleshwara Taluk of Vijayapura District under 5th A [3520 Ha] & 5th B [542 Ha] lift of Mulawad Lift irrigation Scheme Stage-3 etc., Complete including Supply of Spares, Accessories and Tools including Operation and Maintenance of the Entire System for Five years from the date of Successful Commissioning of the entire system on **"Turnkey Basis"(Indent No.1274)"** Amount for **Rs.12128.68 Lakhs**.

Issue and submission of e-tender documents

1. Last date for receipt of tenders **19.12.2024** up to **5.00 PM.**
2. A pre-bid conference will held on **04.12.2024** at **12.15 PM** at the office of the Chief Engineer, KBJNL Dam Zone Almatti Tq: Nidagundi Dist:Vijayapur. The bidders should submit their queries if any for clarifications on or before **04.12.2024** up **11.00 AM** positively through following e-mail id 1) eemli2babaleshwar@gmail.com 2) cedam_almatti@yahoo.co.in
3. Cover-I[Technical] will be opened in the office of the Executive Engineer KBJNL MLI Division No.2 Babaleshwar **on 21.12.2024**at **11.00 AM.**
4. Cover-II[Financial] will be opened in the office of the Executive Engineer KBJNL MLI Division No.2 Babaleshwar **on 24.12.2024**at **11.00 AM.**

For further information and details,visit https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in and KBJNL website www.kbjnl.karnataka.gov.in and can be had from the under signed during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, KBJNL, MLI Division-2, Babaleshwar
ವಾಸಾಸಂ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/426/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಪಿಎ/2024–25

(DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION)
Karnataka Text Book Society(R)
6th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru - 560 003
Ref:ಎ7/E-13556 /KTBS/ADM/TBTR/1/2023 Date:19.11.2024
(Tender No.: KTBS/2024-25/IND0009)

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement portal only)

Tenders are invited under Two Bid System on Government of Karnataka e-procurement platform from eligible printers, having Infrastructure as specified in the **Tender Document to print and supply of Nali-Kali Kalika Materials to Government Primary Schools Located in Karnataka State for the year 2024-25.**

Eligible printers may offer their bidding **up to 5.30 PM on 18.12.2024.** Tender document is available in e-portal as well as department website.

E-procurement portal address: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
Portal Help line: +91-8046010000 / +91-8068948777
Department Website:**https://textbooks.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Managing Director,
Karnataka Textbook Society (R) Bengaluru

An Autonomous Institute of Government of Karnataka
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE MEDICAL COLLEGE & RESEARCH INSTITUTE, BENGALURU
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No:SABVMCRI/E-TENDER/CON/13/2024-25 Dated: 19-11-2024

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

e-Tenders is invited for interested eligible firms in accordance with KTPP Act for **Supply of Cleaning Materials to SABVMCRI & its Attached Hospitals, Bengaluru.**

1) Date of Commencement of Download of Tender Document is **from 16-11-2024. 2)** Last Date for Online Quires: **21-11-2024 upto 5.30 PM. 3)** Last Date and Time for Uploading of e-Tender in e-Procurement Portal: **25-11-2024 upto 5.30 PM. 4)** Date and Time of Online Opening of Technical Bids: **27-11-2024 at 10.30 AM.**

For further details search in **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and if any further details are required in this regard. Please contact the Director Cum Dean / Assistant Administrator of this institute during working days.

DIPR/CP/3282/Adverto/2024-25

Sd/- Director Cum Dean
SABVMCRI, Bengaluru.

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No.: SEE/Tr(W&M)/AEE(Civil)/24-25/Cys-57 Date: 16.11.2024

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPPP Mode Only)

KPTCL invites bid against Enquiry No.: SEE/AEE(C)/Trans/W&M/DVG/24-25/CYS-57,Dated: 16.11.2024 for the works coming in the Transmission(W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Davanagere.

The detailed notification regarding the works can be obtained by logging on to website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** & click on to hyperlink **E Procurement KPTCL** to participate in e-procurement portal **on or after 22.11.2024 at 11.00 Hrs onwards.**

No.: SEE/Tr(W&M)/AEE(Civil)/24-25/Cys-58 Date: 16.11.2024

SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Manual Mode Only)

KPTCL invites bid against Enquiry No.: SEE/AEE(C)/Trans/W&M/DVG/24-25/CYS-58 Dated: 16.11.2024 for the works coming in the Transmission(W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Davanagere. The detailed notification regarding the works called through manual mode can be obtained from the office of the undersigned **on or after 20.11.2024 during working hours.**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele),
Tr. (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Near Stadium,
Hadadi Road, Davangere. Ph: 08192-2250774.

Prison tag

Tracking devices may be used if they aid bail, help free up jail space

The suggestion for the introduction of electronic tracking of prisoners granted parole or furlough may merit consideration as a viable means of decongesting prisons. The idea of having a pilot programme to make undertrials who pose low or moderate risk wear devices that will track and restrict their movements has been mooted in a research report of the Supreme Court of India's Centre for Research and Planning. This is not the first time the use of electronic tracking has been considered, though. The Model Prisons and Correctional Services Act, 2023, contains a provision that says "prisoners may be granted prison leave on the condition of their willingness to wear electronic tracking devices" so that their movement and activities may be monitored. It speaks of cancelling the leave in case of any violation. The study points out that Odisha was the first State to propose the use of tamper-proof electronic trackers on undertrials accused of non-heinous offences to reduce congestion in jails. Such a measure would extend the concept to grant of bail. However, it also points out correctly that there are no guidelines or minimum standards for when and how the technology can be deployed without violating the prisoners' rights. The use of technology for tracking the movement of those allowed to leave prison on some conditions does raise such concerns.

The Court, earlier this year, disapproved of imposing bail conditions that would infringe their right to privacy of the accused. The context in that case was a bail condition that the accused should pin his location on Google Maps and share it with the investigating officer. However, it ought not to mean that electronic tagging should be rejected out of hand. A Parliamentary Standing Committee had approved of cost-effective devices being used with the consent of the accused, citing the possible gains of avoiding rights violation, reducing administrative costs and decongesting prisons. Rising occupancy in prisons has been a matter of concern in the last few years. Official statistics put the number of prisoners in the country's jails at 5,73,220 on December 31, 2022, amounting to 131.4% of the total capacity. Therefore, any move that will reduce the occupancy, including the use of tracking technology, ought to be a welcome measure. Several jurisdictions in the world deploy devices to track the movement of certain categories of offenders. It would be logical to use them to ensure that prisoners released recently do not approach their victims again or enter locations associated with their crimes. If the trackers were to be compact in terms of size and visibility, it could also make the beneficiaries of bail shed their reluctance to wear them for fear of stigmatisation.

A consistent response

Air pollution in Delhi demands a serious, immediate response

Every year, the first instance of the air quality index (AQI) vaulting to hazardous levels in Delhi is a bugle for pandemonium. On Monday, official measurements reported an average AQI of 488, with some private stations reporting over a 1,000. While all these stations do not follow a consistent reporting framework, what is unambiguous is that despite all the analysis of the causes of pollution in the national capital, the political response and the crores invested in measurement and improvising technology fixes, the system is unable to contain episodes of 'severe' pollution or when the AQI crosses 400. Official data suggest that since 2016, there have only been two years when the number of 'severe' days was in the single digits. The number of 'poor' days (AQI over 200) in the same period has declined from 200 in 2016 to 121 in 2024, with the worst yet to come for this year. This further underlines that meteorological conditions will continue to play an outsized role in tipping over the air quality in Delhi, from the concerning to the catastrophic. Unlike from even five years ago, there is a wealth of publicly available analytical tools- private and public sources that can track, even at a daily level, the sources of pollution. Thus a week back, stubble burning or farm fires from Punjab may have been a prominent source, but behind the latest spikes lie 'household' sources and 'road dust'. However despite such nuanced understanding and the creation of empowered bodies such as the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), which is tasked with coordinating a response involving not just Delhi but also surrounding States, there is no attempt by the Centre and the Delhi government to allay public consternation. Both central Ministers in Delhi who are responsible for the environment are away, coordinating election work in Maharashtra and addressing the 29th Conference of Parties in Baku, respectively. The Delhi Ministers cite faulty satellite data from Punjab to show that fires are down or bandy stop-gap solutions such as 'cloud seeding'.

The CAQM chooses not to engage except when it is getting lambasted by the Supreme Court of India, furthering the impression that it is a toothless body with little independence or gumption. Addressing stubble burning, which is a problem only in mid-November, is easier than tackling road dust, which is a perennial problem all through the year. The air quality gains from road dust are significant but of limited, immediate political gains. For the state to be seen as serious about tackling the crisis, it must consistently communicate its intent and rise above politics.

A thousand days of Ukrainian resilience

Oleksandr Polishchuk

Ambassador of Ukraine in India

A 1,000 days ago, on February 24, 2022, world history changed dramatically. Russia launched its full-scale military aggression aimed at destroying Ukrainian statehood, culture and nation. The President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, united the nation and international community to fight the evil. Thus, Ukraine persevered and is still fighting for justice and peace.

In February 2022, many in the West were convinced that Ukraine would not be able to withstand the Russian onslaught. But the armed forces of Ukraine defended Kyiv, expelled the occupiers from the north of Ukraine, and liberated the Kharkiv and Kherson regions.

National unity was a key factor in successful resistance to Russian neo-colonial ambitions. Russia's efforts at conquest were stopped thanks to the joint efforts of Ukrainians who stood united to defend their homeland. During these 1,000 days, Ukraine went through the horrors of war, but, at the same time, proved that an indomitable spirit, the unity of the people and international support could become the basis for bringing peace back.

In April 2022, the world was shocked with the Russian military's massacres of Ukrainians in Bucha, Irpin, Borodyanka and Mariupol. These cities became symbols of the Ukrainian freedom struggle and evidence of the aggressor's war crimes. In a 1,000 days, the armed forces of Ukraine have become one of the strongest armies in the world. The heroism of Ukrainian defenders is admired all over the world.

The human costs

Throughout this period, thousands of civilians, including about 600 children, have died due to the Russian aggression. As in UNHCR data, over eight million Ukrainians left the country, seeking refuge; over half of those who left have come back. In addition, seven million people became internally displaced persons. As of November 2024, about 3.6 million remain internally displaced.

In these 1,000 days, over 2,500 Ukrainian prisoners of war and civilians have been successfully returned through exchanges. However, thousands remain in Russian captivity, in horrifying conditions and heavily tortured. The exact numbers of all captured Ukrainians are difficult to confirm.

It is officially documented that Russia deported more than 20,000 Ukrainian children. The real figure is much higher and continues to grow every day. The International Criminal Court issued a historic arrest warrant for Russian President Vladimir Putin for his involvement in the unlawful deportation of Ukrainian children. With the help of intermediary countries, primarily Qatar, only 1,002 were returned home. Efforts continue to identify and get back the rest, but many cases remain challenging due to Russia's lack of cooperation.

Throughout these 1,000 days, civilian and critical infrastructure became the priority for Russian strikes. Russia deliberately targeted and damaged or destroyed 3,793 educational institutions, 1,714 medical institutions, and more than 2,100 objects of cultural infrastructure. These are cultural heritage sites, museums, libraries, theatres and historical monuments.

> In the Russian aggression against Ukraine, one needs to draw in the Mahatma and his philosophy of ahimsa — this would translate into asking Moscow to respect international law and restore peace

According to the estimates of the World Bank, the total economic losses of Ukraine exceed $400 billion. Restoration of the destroyed infrastructure requires at least $500 billion. Demining of the territories is estimated around $35 billion. Ukraine is facing the challenge of the century – to rebuild the country after the largest war in Europe since the Second World War.

We continue to rebuild the country, bring life back to destroyed territories and implement reforms, showing the world an example of resilience. All this would not be possible without our partners and allies that have provided billions in military, financial and humanitarian aid, which we received with deepest gratitude.

No wins for the aggressor

Ever since the beginning of its full-scale aggression, the so-called second military power in the world, a nuclear state, 25 times bigger than Ukraine – Russia – has lost 7,22,440 military personnel, both wounded and killed. This figure far exceeds the total number of military personnel in most of the world's armies. Russia continues to lose around 1,500 military personnel a day by using them as cannon fodder. To balance these losses, Russia got 1,00,000 North Korean troops to fight its war against Ukraine.

In these 1,000 days, the Russian army has lost 9,365 tanks, 19,059 armoured fighting vehicles, 20,586 artillery systems, 1,252 multiple rocket launchers, 999 air defence systems, 369 aircraft, 329 helicopters, 19,073 operational-tactical unmanned aerial vehicle (UAVs), 28 ships/boats, one submarine, 29,428 auxiliary vehicles and fuel tanks, and 3,655 pieces of specialised equipment. Once a leading arms exporter, Russia's global defence contracts have been undermined as its military equipment's reliability has been questioned.

Russia has faced over 14,000 cases of sanctions from international entities, severely restricting its access to global financial systems and technology. These sanctions have resulted in long-term damage to industries reliant on imports, particularly high-technology sectors. In addition, over 1,000 global companies have exited Russia since the invasion began, reducing foreign direct investment. Over one million educated professionals and young workers have fled Russia, making it the largest exodus since 1991 (when the USSR was dissolved). This has severely impacted the IT and engineering sectors.

While officials in the Kremlin are repeatedly asserting that Russia`s economy is resilient, the reality of its long-term economic outlook appears increasingly fragile. The poverty level is increasing, and social, educational and cultural programmes are being curtailed. Because of the crazy idea of its leader, Russia is degrading, and its citizens are being marginalised. In late October this year, Russia's Central Bank raised its key policy rate to an unprecedented 21%. In this manner, the Russian authorities struggle with the real problems and try to manage a war-time economy that is in danger of overheating due to a combination of factors that include rising inflation and the pressure of sanctions.

The international image of Russia has been severely damaged. In the last 1,000 days, Russia has been suspended or excluded from key international bodies, such as the Council of Europe, and faces diminished influence in organisations such as the United Nations. Russia has become a global outcaste, with only a few rogue states such as North Korea continuing to support it openly. Its long-term influence in international diplomacy stands severely diminished.

In search of just and lasting peace

It is probable that every Ukrainian personally knows at least one person who, right now, is defending Ukraine's independence on the front lines. The war did not defeat the Ukrainians, did not frighten them, did not break them, did not destroy them, and did not separate them.

Today, Ukraine effectively deters Russia's armed aggression thanks to efforts on the military, diplomatic, and information fronts, as well as powerful international assistance.

The heroic resistance of Ukrainians is not only a struggle for the physical survival of the Ukrainian people and the freedom of the country. In this war, Ukraine defends its European choice, its identity and values as part of the European ones. Ukrainians shed their blood for a free and democratic Europe.

Mr. Zelenskyy, has repeatedly emphasised the point that neutrality in this war is untenable. He has said, "There can be no neutrality between the aggressor and the victim. Neutrality in this conflict means you are with Russia." These words are a reminder that standing on the sidelines in the face of such clear violations of international law undermines the very principles that bind us as a global community. Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity are a guarantee of world stability.

If Mahatma Gandhi were alive today, his unwavering commitment to justice and peace would undoubtedly have led him to call for Russia to quit Ukraine. Gandhiji's leadership during the Quit India Movement was rooted in the belief that no power has the right to oppress or dominate another nation.

Gandhiji's philosophy of ahimsa and his moral clarity on colonialism as an affront to human dignity align closely with Ukraine's struggle for freedom from aggression. His stance would emphasise the principle that true peace can only be achieved when oppressors relinquish their hold and allow justice to prevail. In today's context, this would translate into calling for Russia to respect international law, withdraw its troops, and restore peace.

A community on the margins, its hidden scars

Manmeet Kaur Bhatia

Research Fellow at the George Institute for Global Health India

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Heeramandi, a Netflix series by Sanjay Leela Bhansali, delves into the lives of courtesans in pre-Independence India, bringing to the forefront the untold stories of sex workers. Set in Lahore's historic red light district, it paints a vivid picture of the complex interplay between societal pressures, personal ambitions, and the pursuit of dignity and freedom. While capturing the resilience and agency of these women, who navigate the harsh realities of their profession under British colonial rule, it also subtly highlights the mental health challenges they face – which are still painfully relevant.

Globally, sex workers continue to face profound mental health challenges exacerbated by societal stigma, violence, economic pressures, and isolation. While much of the public discourse on sex work either romanticises or criminalises the profession, it often neglects the very real mental health struggles. The unique circumstances of their work makes sex workers vulnerable to complex emotional and psychological stressors. Yet, access to mental health services remains limited.

A spectrum of issues

Sex workers suffer from a range of mental health conditions, including anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and substance use disorders. These stem from various factors such as violence, exploitation, and societal stigma. Stigma is one of the most significant contributors to their mental health issues. Ostracised, sex workers are deprived of basic human rights, which alienates them from accessing essential health services. This exclusion leaves them vulnerable to severe psychological distress, and the stigma attached to their profession is a major deterrent to their seeking help. Violence is a constant in their lives. Many experience physical, emotional, and sexual violence from clients, pimps, and even law enforcement. This results in trauma and PTSD, significantly affecting their everyday life. The continuous trauma inflicted by violence exacerbates mental health disorders, creating a cycle that is difficult to break without appropriate interventions.

> The lived realities of sex workers must be acknowledged, with collaborative, compassionate and comprehensive interventions to promote their mental health

Economic pressures further drive their mental health issues. Many are drawn into the profession out of financial desperation, often as the sole means of supporting themselves and their families. The precarious nature of sex work, along with the lack of alternative employment opportunities, results in chronic stress and anxiety. The instability of income heightens their insecurity, further damaging their mental health.

Substance use is a common coping mechanism among sex workers who rely on drugs or alcohol to manage stress and trauma. However, substance use compounds their mental health problems, trapping them in a harmful cycle of addiction, isolation, and deteriorating mental well-being. The isolation faced by sex workers worsens their access to social support systems, heightens feelings of hopelessness and deepens mental health issues. This lack of support is a recurring theme, historically and today.

An absence of specific interventions

The intersection of sex work and mental health reveals deep-seated challenges that demand comprehensive and compassionate interventions. Although efforts have been made, particularly in addressing HIV prevention and treatment, specific mental health services tailored to sex workers are still lacking. For example, while India has seen initiatives focused on HIV prevention, there is still a gap in mental health services. In Sonagachi, Kolkata, however, a mental health database project, with the goal of providing more targeted interventions and support. This initiative emphasises the need for data-driven solutions that are tailored to the unique mental health needs of the community.

Much progress can be made if the lived realities of sex workers are acknowledged and if interventions address their mental health needs with sensitivity and urgency. Comprehensive research is needed to test the feasibility, acceptability, and effectiveness of interventions co-designed with sex workers in India to promote their mental health and well-being. Additionally, sustained advocacy is required to establish supportive policies that offer a comprehensive package of services, including economic opportunities, access to mental health services, legal protection from violence, and efforts to reduce societal stigma.

Legal support is one area

The mental health crisis among sex workers demands collaborative, compassionate and comprehensive interventions. Legal protection, access to mental health services, and the creation of safe spaces where sex workers can access social support are essential to improving their well-being. As emphasized in the report, "Sex Work and Mental Health: Access to Mental Health Services for People Who Sell Sex in Germany, Italy, Sweden, and the UK", peer support networks are fundamental to mental health. By focusing on the lived realities of sex workers and advocating supportive policies, society can move toward a more just and humane approach in addressing the mental health challenges faced by this marginalised community.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Yunus interview

Muhammad Yunus, Chief Adviser to the Interim Government in Bangladesh, has accused former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of being politically active while she is in India (November 19). By giving asylum to someone like Ms. Hasina, India may now be wearing an albatross around its neck. The allegation is serious and may turn out to be the root cause of animosity with a friendly nation.

Tharcius S. Fernando,
Chennai

Manipur's cry for peace

New Delhi must prioritise Manipur's conflict resolution through citizen-centric dialogues, truth commissions and community engagement. Addressing decades-old ethnic divisions, land rights disputes and socioeconomic disparities is vital to help the return to a peaceful coexistence.

Niveditha Sreedeep,
Madayipara, Kannur, Kerala

A grievance

The electric vehicle industry in India is experiencing exponential growth, with data indicating the use of over 3.4 million vehicles. But the limited availability of charging stations is disappointing. The lack of sufficient charging infrastructure is a major source of frustration. If the government aims to boost EV use by 2047, establishing a widespread network of charging stations has to be considered.

M.P. Abshir Midlaj,
Kodiyathur, Kozhikode, Kerala

Corrections & Clarifications

The blurb that accompanied the report, "Kremlin slams Biden's decision to let Kyiv strike deeper in Russia" (World page, November 19, 2024) incorrectly mentioned NATO as MATO.

Serials and content

One is in agreement with a reader about TV serials ('Letters to The Editor', November 19). Most serials are laced with violence and could corrupt minds. It is time to set up a censor board for serials, as most are unfit for general viewing in the drawing room.

K. Pradeep,
Chennai

How India could counter the CBAM

Suvajit Banerjee

Fellow at NCAER, New Delhi. Views are personal

Sovini Mondal

Research Associate at NCAER, New Delhi. Views are personal

Protectionism is a threat to the collaboration required between the developed and developing world in addressing climate issues. Innovative protectionist ideas, such as the European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (EU-CBAM), the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive, and the EU Deforestation Regulation, have led to concerns in developing nations. India has criticised the EU-CBAM, in particular, as being "arbitrary".

A 'discriminatory' tool

The CBAM is meant to ensure that imported products bear a carbon emission cost comparable to the cost imposed on goods produced within the EU. Exporters will be mandated to provide information on the quantity and emissions of their goods and buy certificates to match those emissions. The definite phase of the CBAM will enter into force on January 1, 2026. This may pose significant risks to India's international trade. The EU comprises 20.33% of India's total merchandise exports, of which 25.7% are affected by CBAM. During the last five fiscal years, iron and steel have accounted for 76.83% of these exports, followed by aluminium, cement, and fertilizers.

In recent editions of the Conference of the Parties (COPs), India has said that CBAM is "discriminatory" and called on developing countries to establish a coordinated response to what it considers as an unjust transfer of responsibilities. The CBAM is attracting considerable attention at COP29 in Baku. However, under-prepared arguments presented at COP29 could undermine India's credibility as a leading voice of the Global South.

It is important to recognise that not all developing economies share the same economic aspirations as India, nor will they be equally affected by the impacts of climate change. Therefore, perceptions regarding CBAM are complex even within the developing world. Issues related to multilateral and bilateral trade and cultural ties between developed and developing economies influence the tone of their arguments. The current production-based accounting principle practiced under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCC) includes the emissions resulting from the production of exportable commodities within the emission inventory of the exporting nation. The exporting nation is held accountable for the reduction of these emissions, even though these products are not consumed within its domestic market. As a result, many developing economies with less stringent emission reduction measures are accused of climate change when they export more.

The proposed arguments

Therefore, India's arguments should also align with other developing countries' agenda, if India wishes to speak like a leader. The following could be some of the arguments. First, on the time for preparing for CBAM. With administrative deftness, the EU set a target to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 20% compared to 1990 levels by 2020; this is outlined in the EU Climate Action and Renewable Energy Package in 2008. Following the accomplishment of these targets, the European Green Deal was unveiled in 2019, extending the emission reduction target to 55% below the 1990 levels in a Fit for 55 Package. Does the CBAM offer developing economies a matchable time to adapt?

The second is on empowerment. The EU has decided to keep the revenues generated from the CBAM as its resources, which will be used to fund the NextGenerationEU recovery tool and operate the CBAM. Depending on the mechanism's ultimate design, the anticipated additional money generated by CBAM for 2030 is estimated to be €5 to €14 billion annually. Is it appropriate for the EU not to share this revenue with non-EU trading partners? Doing so may contribute to capacity building and technology transfer in developing economies.

Third, there is the issue of quantifying emission reduction responsibilities. India can justifiably advocate for an alternative called Equity-based Accounting (EBA) of Nationally Determined Contributions, which emphasises a collective obligation for emission reductions among trade partners based on the ideas of horizontal intra-generational equity and vertical inter-generational equity. In the context of the EU-CBAM, India can introduce the concept of EBA to the developing world concerning retaliation measures. Using the EBA, a formula can be proposed to calculate the tariff base on imports from the EU, which considers factors such as relative per capita GDP, relative per capita emissions, relative gains from trade, and relative avoided emissions through trade. By expressing the actual emissions embedded in imports in a way that reflects the developmental and historical heterogeneities between trade partners, any developing economy can be better positioned under these new rules of the game, which provide an unbiased evaluation of climate initiatives.

Even the PBA adheres to the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities, which is significantly compromised under the CBAM framework. CBAM does not acknowledge compensatory justice or distributive justice. Consequently, the allocation of emission responsibilities is not equitably assigned to countries based on their historical contributions to climate change or their capacity to mitigate its effects. It is apparent that through CBAM, the EU wants to intimidate non-EU nations into adopting its self-proclaimed position as climate leader.

It is apparent that through CBAM, the EU wants to intimidate non-EU nations into adopting its self-proclaimed position as climate leader

A snapshot of distress migration in Odisha

A significant challenge for the special task force will be the lack of robust data

STATE OF PLAY

S. Irudaya Rajan
Amrita Datta

An estimated 1.75 million people moved from Odisha to other States in 2023, many of them driven by distress and desperation. Last month, the Odisha government set up a special task force to look into distress migration, which is defined by the World Bank as involuntary movement due to poverty or disasters. The task force aims to provide recommendations and targeted intervention measures, including infrastructure improvement and department-specific schemes.

Distress migration usually occurs in conditions where the individual or household is left with no viable means to maintain a life with dignity other than to migrate. This could be due to extreme economic deprivation, natural and environmental disasters, or even intolerable social and gender discrimination. In Odisha, the agricultural sector, which is central to the economy, faces multiple challenges, including landlessness, small landholdings, heavy reliance on rain-fed farming, and extreme weather events. These push people, particularly the vulnerable rural population, such as women, the elderly, children, and those from backward groups, to migrate.

The Odisha Migration Survey, 2023, a comprehensive survey funded by the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) and conducted by the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Hyderabad, and the International Institute of Migration and Development (IIMAD), Kerala, with a representative sample of 15,000 households, offers reliable district-level estimates of inter-State migration from Odisha. According to the survey, more than 30% of the households are directly dependent on agriculture as their main source of income. It finds that 86% of inter-State migrants have moved to urban areas and 63% of them have relocated in search of better employment opportunities.

Further, nearly half of Odisha's inter-State migrants are from families that live below the poverty line. About 33% of them are landless, and 40% own less than one acre of land. An overwhelming 80% belong to backward castes (Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes combined) and 40% of the migrants reported having poor and kutcha houses.

A particularly worrying finding is that return migrant households in Odisha performed low on development indicators. This suggests that migration has not led to lasting benefits for most returnees and raises questions about the efficacy of migration as a pathway to sustained economic upliftment.

Aggravating the problem is the escalating strain caused by unpredictable weather patterns on agrarian livelihoods. Notes by the first author from an ongoing research, supported by the Food and Agricultural Organization and International Organization for Migration, show that the recurrent nature of heatwaves in Ganjam and cyclones in Kendrapada severely affect agricultural productivity and rural livelihoods. The farmers in Odisha, aided by the government, are employing several resilience strategies, including the Spice, Mushroom, and Millet Missions to enhance their livelihoods. However, income losses caused by extreme weather events remain severe and push many agricultural families to migrate – some on a long-term basis and others seasonally – to other States.

Disaster management in Odisha requires coordinated efforts across departments. Key agencies such as the National Disaster Response Force and the Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force are central to rescue operations. To bolster these efforts, the State is enhancing its disaster response network and implementing the Incident Response System, an effective mechanism for reducing ad hoc measures in response, to streamline efforts at the block level. As climate crises persist, Odisha's strategies for managing migration and building resilience will be crucial for its socioeconomic future.

A significant challenge for the recently formed special task force will be the lack of robust data to account for the regional disparities in migration patterns. Insights from the Odisha Migration Study, 2023, could help address this gap. This data will help policymakers and the task force understand better the region-specific migration dynamics, identify vulnerable groups, and tailor interventions accordingly.

S. Irudaya Rajan is Chair, IIMAD, Kerala, and Amrita Datta is Assistant Professor, Department of Liberal Arts, IIT Hyderabad

Economic and political power are intertwined in Maharashtra

Implementing transparent political funding mechanisms could encourage a more level playing field in State politics

DATA POINT

Sarthak Bagchi,
Vignesh Karthik K.R.
Firasha Shaikh

Dynastic politics plays a significant role in shaping Maharashtra's political and economic landscape. Prominent political families have control over key sectors such as sugar production, education, and real estate. This reinforces their political dominance and impacts governance and development. The absence of transparent political funding mechanisms compels parties to rely more on internal networks and resources, further entrenching dynastic influence.

We found approximately 115 businesses owned by politicians from established political families that operate in rent-thick sectors that benefit from proximity to power. Control over political influence aids the growth of these businesses, generating funds that are often reinvested into costly election campaigns and party financing.

Among these enterprises, 28 sugar factories, including privately owned units and cooperative units, are operated by dynastic politicians. While most of these factories are concentrated in western Maharashtra, many are located in Marathwada and Vidarbha. These factories are either owned or controlled by politicians from entrenched political dynasties.

In addition to the sugar industry, about 15 political families own extensive private education empires in the State. These include some of the largest networks of private colleges, universities, engineering and medical colleges, and professional degree institutions. For example, the Shivaji Education Society in Vidarbha was established by Panjabrao Deshmukh, a Congressman, and the Maharashtra Educational Trust is owned by Chhagan Bhujbal from the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP). Even in cases where a political family does not directly or privately own these education societies, their association with these institutions allow them to control the governance and functioning.

Dynastic politicians also have vested interests in the real estate and construction industry. Control over land and development projects offers substantial economic benefits and opportunities to influence urbanisation. The real estate sector's profitability and ability to shape infrastructure development make it an attractive avenue for political families to expand their economic base and reinforce their political stature.

This phenomenon is particularly evident in western Maharashtra, a stronghold of the Marathas. In the 1970s, the Maratha political leaders had agricultural backgrounds and were part of cooperative movements. In the 1980s, they shifted to agriculture-based industries and later, into the education sector. In the 2000s, they ventured into the real estate business. This adaptability, coupled with their numerical strength, has solidified the Marathas as a dominant force across many regions.

Notably, there are around 40 MLAs in the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) who have familial connections – either immediate or extended – with individuals from the Congress or the NCP. A significant majority of these MLAs are Marathas, which underscores the community's deep-rooted entrenchment in State politics.

A survey by the Centre for the Advanced Study of India at the University of Pennsylvania found that Maharashtra ranks third among States in voter preference for dynastic politicians. It says 59% of voters in the State are comfortable electing politicians from established political families. In the 2024 Assembly elections, at least 110 from our list of 340 dynasty politicians have been nominated by different political parties. Almost all political parties tend to nominate them more for their 'winnability factor', but even in cases where dynasty politicians are not contesting elections, they are involved in local-level politics, such as in the party youth wing.

Political families also exert control over district cooperative structures such as sugar factories, agricultural produce market committees, and credit societies. Through this control, they influence political activities and cultivate loyal supporter bases that are more attached to the family than to any party. This personal support base allows these political families to switch parties without jeopardising their electoral power.

The prevalence of political dynasties also undercuts the growth of party organisations in places where one political family controls access and opportunities to political power. This prevents the growth of new leadership through more democratic means. Opposition to these dominant families often emerges from rival political families. The politics of a district may be dominated by one family or characterised by intense rivalries between two families competing for dominance.

The absence of transparent political funding mechanisms exacerbates the reliance on internal networks and personal wealth within parties. Without formal channels for raising large sums of money openly, parties in Maharashtra increasingly depend on the financial resources of established political families. This reinforces the influence of dynastic politicians who can fund expensive campaigns and party activities through their business interests. It also hampers the entry of new and less affluent candidates into politics.

Implementing transparent political funding mechanisms could encourage a more level playing field in State politics. These are essential for enhancing democratic representation and ensuring that political power is not disproportionately held by a select few.

Corridors of power

In the Maharashtra Assembly elections of 2024, at least 110 dynastic politicians have been nominated by different political parties. In total, 340 dynastic politicians were studied for this analysis

Sweet deal: Approximately 115 businesses, owned by politicians from established political families that operate in rent-thick sectors, were identified. These sectors benefit from proximity to power. Among these enterprises, 28 sugar factories, including privately owned units and cooperative units, are operated by dynastic politicians

Table 1: Table shows the party-wise split of the **dynastic politicians nominated in the 2024 polls**

Party	Count
BJP	30
Congress	20
NCP	16
NCP - Sharad Pawar	12
Shiv Sena	11
Shiv Sena - UBT	8
Independent	7
Bahujan Vikas Aghadi	2
MNS	1

Table 2: Table shows the party-wise split of the dynastic politicians who own **sugar co-operatives/mills**

Party	Count
BJP	3
NCP - Sharad Pawar	2
Shiv Sena	2
Congress	1
NCP	1
Shiv Sena - UBT	1

Table 3: Table shows the party-wise split of the dynastic politicians who **own rent-thick sector business**

Party	Count
BJP	15
NCP	8
NCP - Sharad Pawar	8
Congress	6
Shiv Sena - UBT	5
Shiv Sena	4
Independent	3
Bahujan Vikas Aghadi	1
MNS	1

Table 4 : Table shows the party-wise split of the dynastic politicians who own education institutions/education-related businesses

Party	Count
BJP	2
NCP	2
NCP - Sharad Pawar	1
Congress	1

Sarthak teaches political science at the Ahmedabad University. Vignesh is a postdoctoral research fellow of Indian and Indonesian politics at KITLV-Leiden. Firasha is a researcher based in Maharashtra.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 20, 1974

BHEL equipment made for Rys. lie unlifted

New Delhi: Heavy electrical equipment such as traction motors, generators and control gears worth Rs. 2.99 crores manufactured for the Railways by the State-owned Bharat Heavy Electricals, Bhopal, are lying unlifted at Bhopal because they turned out to be in excess of the Railways' requirements following the revision of the loco manufacturing programme. The Punjab Electricity Board is not able to lift equipment worth Rs. 52 lakhs consisting of transformers "due to paucity of funds".

Disclosing this in the Lok Sabha to-day, Mr. A.C. George, Union Minister of State for Industry and Civil Supplies, said the BHEL was discussing this with the Railways and the Punjab Board.

The Minister was replying to a calling attention notice on the reported accumulation of heavy electrical equipment worth about Rs. 14 crores with the BHEL, Bhopal. He informed the House that the Government was contemplating the inclusion of a penalty clause in case of failure to lift equipment manufactured against orders by the BHEL.

Mr. George pointed out later the problems faced by the BHEL units on account of the heavy overdues from the State Electricity Boards amounting to Rs. 114 crores out of which the share of the Bhopal unit was Rs. 35 crores. But he added that these heavy overdues had not hampered the Bhopal unit's production programme.

Its production last month amounted to Rs. 8.37 crores which exceeded the targeted Rs. 6.16 crores.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 20, 1924

England-India air route

In a speech which was broadcast last night dealing with the imperial airship policy, Sir William Braacker said that in the coming year Rs. 33 would reconnoitre the route to India in preparation for an England-India service. Two new airships (mentioned on 19th September, 5th and 8th November), one of which was being erected by a private firm and the other by Government factories would carry 100 passengers and 5 tons load including mail and be capable of remaining in air for 80 hours and reaching India with only one intermediate stop for refuelling. Each of the new airships will have seven engines totalling 4,200 horse power.

From Page One

Maharashtra set to vote today in a single phase

According to EC, Maharashtra had 9.7 crore registered voters, including 5 crore men, 4.69 crore women, and 6,101 transgender voters as on October 30. Among them, 6.41 lakh are Persons with Disabilities (PwD), and 1.16 lakh are service voters from the armed forces.

Given the expanded voters' list, over one lakh polling stations, up from 96,654 in 2019, have been set up.

In the run-up to the Maharashtra election, the enforcement agencies seized cash and goods worth ₹252.42 crore since the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) came into effect on October 15. Besides, 2,469 complaints of MCC violations were received via C-Vigil app, with a 99.31% resolution rate, officials said.

The election campaign was marked by heated exchanges on a range of issues, with leaders such as Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge, and Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra addressing rallies across Maharashtra. The BJP's campaign slogans, such as *"batenge toh katenge"* (divided we perish) and *"ek hain toh safe hai"* (united we are safe), drew sharp criticism from Opposition parties, which accused the BJP of fomenting communal polarisation.

In Jharkhand, of the 38 seats going to polls in the second and final phase, 27 are general category seats, three are reserved for Scheduled Castes and eight for Scheduled Tribes. About 1.23 crore voters are listed in the electoral rolls for this phase. The first phase held on November 13 covered 43 constituencies.

Biren sends notice to 11 Manipur MLAs

Among them, Khumukcham Joykisan (Thangmeiband) and Md Achab Uddin (Jiribam) had switched from the Janata Dal (United).

Two "absentee" NPP legislators – N. Kayisii of Tadubi constituency and Khuraijam Loken Singh of Wangoi – were not given any notice, unlike Mr. Hassan.

Senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh referred to the turnout at Monday's meeting to assert that the "writing on the wall is clear" for the BJP in Manipur. "The Manipur Assembly has 60 MLAs. Last night, the CM of Manipur called a meeting in Imphal of all MLAs belonging to the NDA. Other than him, only 26 showed up. Of these 26, 4 belong to the NPP whose National President has already written to the BJP National President withdrawing support to the present CM," he posted on X.

Among the attendees was Manipur's Rajya Sabha member Leishemba Sanajaoba.

After the NPP pulled out, the NDA in Manipur has 46 MLAs. Eight of them, including seven of the BJP, are Kuki-Zo MLAs who left the Imphal Valley after the ethnic clashes broke out on May 3, 2023.

Coffin rally

Hundreds of Kuki-Zo tribal people took out a rally in Churachandpur on Tuesday, carrying empty coffins in solidarity with the 10 "village volunteers" killed by the CRPF and the Manipur police in a gunfight in Jiribam district's Borobekra area on November 11.

The Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum, a Kuki-Zo outfit, said the community decided not to perform the last rites till the post-mortem reports conducted in Assam's Silchar Medical College and Hospital are handed over to their families.

At G-20 summit, India, China discuss resumption of flights, visa issuance

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Chinese counterpart Wang Yi meet for the first time since LAC disengagement agreement last month and a meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

A month after India and China announced that they would disengage their troops along the Line of Actual Control, the two countries have agreed to discuss the "next steps" in their relationship, including the resumption of direct flights, visas, journalist permissions, river-data sharing and allowing Indian pilgrims to Kailash Mansarovar.

This announcement was made after External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on the sidelines of the G-20 summit in Rio de Janeiro on Monday, their first interaction since the LAC disengagement agreement on October 21, and a meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping in Russia.

"The Ministers recognised that the disengagement in our border areas had contributed to the maintenance of peace and tranquillity," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in a statement on Tuesday. "It was agreed that a meeting of the Special Representatives and of the Foreign Secretary-Vice Minister mechanism will take place soon," it added, referring to talks on the boundary question between National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Mr. Wang, as well as between Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri and his counterpart.

Warmer times: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar meets China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Rio de Janeiro on Monday. ANI

The Ministry said India had been "principled", "consistent", and independent in its actions, and was "against unilateral approaches to establish dominance".

On the global stage

Discussing their role on the international stage, Mr. Jaishankar and Mr. Wang referred to the "constructive" engagement between India and China at BRICS, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and G-20.

The meeting came as Mr. Modi and Mr. Xi arrived in Rio to address the G-20 summit being hosted by Brazil. Mr. Modi held bilateral talks with the leaders of a number of countries, including Brazil, Indonesia, Italy, the United Kingdom, and Australia, while exchanging greetings with others on the sidelines of the summit. Officials said, however, that no formal bilateral meeting had been scheduled with the Chinese President.

The two Foreign Ministers last met during the BRICS summit in Kazan, accompanying their leaders, and had held talks in June and July that are believed to have set the pace for military and diplomatic talks to resolve the impasse at the LAC.

'Practical progress'

According to a separate statement by the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), Mr. Wang had said that "China-India relations have been restarted and relaunched" after the Modi-Xi meeting in Kazan on October 23, and that the two sides should "send more positive signals" after this. In particular, he mentioned the lack of direct flights, which were originally suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic, but were never restored due to the tensions at the LAC, and called for Delhi and Beijing to plan to commemorate the 75th year of their diplomatic engagement in 2025.

"We should strive to make practical progress as soon as possible in the resumption of direct flights, mutual assignment of journalists and visa facilitation," the readout by the Chinese MFA said. "Next year will mark the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and India, and the two sides should plan commemorative activities and encourage exchanges and visits in all fields and at all levels to enhance understanding and mutual trust," it added.

Putin to visit India 'soon'; exact date to be negotiated

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Indian and Russian officials are preparing for a visit by Russian President Vladimir Putin to India "soon", said Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov. He added that the dates of the visit, which would be the first by the Russian President since the war in Ukraine began, had not been decided so far.

"I hope soon," Mr. Peskov told Indian journalists during a virtual conference organised by Sputnik Television, when asked about Mr. Putin's travel to India, who last travelled to India in December 2021 for the annual summit. "You know that our leaders are exchanging visits, and after two visits by PM Modi to Russia, we will now have the visit of President Putin to India," he said, referring to Mr. Modi's visit to Moscow for the annual summit in July and then to Kazan for the BRICS summit. "We will start precise negotiations for preparations for the visit... Right now we don't have any specific dates," Mr. Peskov said.

Cong. chief seeks President Murmu's intervention in violence-affected Manipur

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Tuesday wrote to President Droupadi Murmu seeking her intervention over the crisis in Manipur. In his letter, Mr. Kharge said that people have lost faith in Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister N. Biren Singh to protect their lives and properties in the northeastern State.

Calling the ongoing Manipur conflict that has claimed more than 240 lives, "a tragedy of extraordinary" proportions, Mr. Kharge wrote that the Congress strongly believes that "the deliberate acts of omission and commission" by both the Union and State governments have resulted in "complete lawlessness", "violations of human rights", "compromise of national security and suppression of fundamental rights of citizens of our country".

Mallikarjun Kharge

Mr. Kharge wrote that it amounts to destruction of 'Right to Life' with dignity as enshrined under Article 19 of the Constitution. The recent escalation of violence, Mr. Kharge further said, has only increased the insecurity of people of Manipur. "With no succour coming from the governments involved, they are finding themselves completely isolated and helpless for more than 540 days now," he said.

He once again underlined that the Prime Minister has not visited the State since the outbreak of violence in May 2023.

Chidambaram's view

Meanwhile, former Union Home Minister and Rajya Sabha member P. Chidambaram's post on X calling for regional autonomy among Meitei, Kuki-Zo and Naga communities, led to a war of words with Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh and also saw pushback from within the Congress. Mr. Chidambaram deleted the post after pressure from the State party leaders.

Probe panel on Manipur conflict collects evidence; doubts over public hearings

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The three-member Commission of Inquiry (CoI) notified last year by the Union Home Ministry to probe ethnic violence in Manipur is in the middle of collecting evidence, and "relevant people" would be called to appear before the panel soon, a senior government official said on Tuesday.

The panel was expected to conduct public hearings to comprehensively investigate the violence, but a decision is yet to be taken on the subject. "The safety and security of individuals who attend the hearing is to be considered. What if someone is harmed after the hearing? We are weighing in the options," the official said.

Home Ministry had said the Commission shall submit the report to the Centre before November 20

A September 13 notification by the Ministry had said that the Commission shall submit its report to the Union government as soon as possible but not later than November 20.

The official told *The Hindu* that the CoI headed by Justice Ajai Lamba (retd), former Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court, has received over 11,000 affidavits, pen drives, photographs and other documentary submissions. The papers, kept in two rooms, weigh about 2.5 tonne, the official said. The Commission had sent notices to all the district commissioners, superintendents of police, armouries in-charge, and other offices with specific queries, and it received a response to each of the affidavits.

"The CoI examined each document, which had to be segregated district-wise. The veracity of the affidavits have to be checked. Now the CoI is at the stage of summoning evidence. All relevant persons will be called. So, the process will take time," the official said.

Another official added that after the CoI was notified on June 3, 2023, the public notices inviting affidavits could not be circulated for a long time as the Internet had been blocked, newspapers were not being published, and even post offices were not functioning.

'India's vision for free, open maritime network is finding resonance across the world'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Stating that oceans are a shared heritage for nations and societies, as well as the lifeline for international trade, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that over the last decade, the capacity of the country's ports has been doubled.

"By enhancing port efficiency, reducing turnaround times and strengthening last-mile connectivity through expressways, railways and riverine networks, we have transformed India's shoreline," Mr. Modi said in a message from his camp office in Nigeria delivered on Tuesday at the ongoing inaugural edition of the thought leadership summit 'Sagarmanthan: The Great Oceans Dialogue' organised by the Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and waterways in partnership with Observer Research Foundation (ORF).

> By enhancing port efficiency, reducing turnaround times and strengthening last-mile connectivity, we have transformed India's shoreline
>
> **NARENDRA MODI**
> Prime Minister

Today, the security and prosperity of nations is intimately connected to oceans, and recognising the potential of oceans, several transformative steps have been taken to bolster India's maritime capabilities, the Prime Minister said.

"Our vision for a free, open and secure maritime network – be it the Indian Ocean or the Indo-Pacific region – is finding resonance across the world. The 'Indo Pacific Oceans Initiative' envisions marine resources as a key pillar for growth for nations. This dialogue on oceans further strengthen the rules-based world order and enhance peace, trust and friendship between nations."

Maritime traditions

Highlighting India's rich maritime legacy and steps taken to build the sector, Mr. Modi said India's maritime tradition goes back several millennia and is among the richest in the world.

The thriving port cities of Lothal and Dholavira, the fleets of the Chola dynasty, the exploits of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj are great inspirations, he added.

The two-day dialogue that started on Monday saw over 1,700 participants, including over 215 delegates from 60 countries.

India and Italy to negotiate defence industrial road map, focus on maritime sector

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

India and Italy agreed to negotiate a defence industrial road map, and agreement for the mutual protection and exchange of classified information as also an agreement on cooperation in the maritime and port sector. This was stated in the Joint Strategic Action Plan 2025-29, which outlines their vision for the next five years.

"Negotiate a defence industrial road map, between the two Ministries of Defence and promote a Memorandum of Understanding between the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers and the Italian Industries Federation for Aerospace, Defence and Security," the joint action plan said. "Welcome interactions between respective Armed Forces in the framework of Italy's growing interest in the Indo-Pacific Region, aimed at increasing interoperability and cooperation, including negotiations of any useful arrangement supporting such interactions."

The Joint Strategic Action Plan 2025-29 was released outlining both countries' vision. ANI

On G-20 sidelines

The action plan was issued after the meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Italian counterpart Giorgia Meloni on the sidelines of the G-20 summit on Monday in Brazil. "Our talks centred around deepening ties in defence, security, trade and technology. We also talked about how to boost cooperation in culture, education and other such areas," Mr. Modi said on X after the meeting.

They also agreed to explore avenues of enhanced partnerships and dialogue among public and private stakeholders, focusing on "technology collaboration, co-production and co-development of defence platforms and equipment".

In the last few years, there has been an increase in military-to-military visits between the two countries' armed forces. In a historic maritime engagement, the navies of India and Italy carried out their maiden exercise by Carrier Strike Groups (CSG) off the Goa coast. The sea phase was led by *INS Vikramaditya* and *ITS Cavour* along with *INS Visakhapatnam* and *ITS Alpino*.

Pune court summons Rahul on December 2

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

A special court in Pune on Monday ordered Congress leader Rahul Gandhi to appear before it on December 2 in connection with a criminal defamation case filed against him by the grand-nephew of Vinayak Damodar Savarkar.

The complainant, Satyaki Savarkar, has claimed that Mr. Gandhi made objectionable comments against the Hindutva icon in a speech in London on March 5, 2023.

The Special MP/MLA Court, presided over by Joint Civil Judge and Judicial Magistrate [First Class] Amol Shinde, had on October 4 issued summons to Mr. Gandhi to appear on October 23. However, the Congress leader did not appear in court and his counsel said they had not received the summons.

On Monday, advocate Sangram Kolhatkar, for Mr. Savarkar, requested that fresh summons should be issued. Advocate Milind Pawar, for Mr. Gandhi, told the court that the Congress leader would appear on the next date.

APPEAL

I am **Bhuvaneshwari**, 35 years advised to undergo **Atrial Septal Defect Closure** with **Pericardial Patch** at Public Health Centre, Chennai. The total expenditure is **Rs. 2,00,000/-**. My husband is a farmer in a village. We have three school going children and we cannot afford this huge cost. Please help me to undergo the surgery and lead a healthy life. The donations sent thorough Ch/D.D/NEFT Transfer & GOOGLE PAY (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/C No. 60182010063310, IFSC No. CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT.

All correspondence is done through **WWS**, Regd. Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No. GF1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph: 044-42137401 / 28235324 / 7338978027. E Mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com.** Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org

Bhuvaneshwari

MVA, Mahayuti ran the whole gamut

Core issues missing in the parties' manifestos took centre stage only in the last phase of Maharashtra campaign; fearful that soya bean may have a similar impact as onion did during Lok Sabha polls, parties scramble to announce sops in State, the second largest producer of the legume in India

NEWS ANALYSIS

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit
MUMBAI

In the final fortnight before Maharashtra goes to the polls, political narratives have changed rapidly.

From announcing doles in their manifestos, appealing to voters' emotions, and caricaturing their rivals, the six major political parties have finally addressed the pressing concerns of millions of farmers across the State.

The last two weeks have seen a massive churn in poll priorities, forcing the ruling alliance to take cognisance of agrarian issues. During the Lok Sabha election, the failure to address onion farmers' issues had cost the ruling Mahayuti dear; its fear that soya bean farmers' concerns would have a similar impact on the State election pushed it to change its narratives quickly.

As *The Hindu* had reported in early November, the Kisan Manifesto brought out by farmers' associations had highlighted the issues of cotton and soybean farmers, and had requested all parties to address their woes in their manifestos.

During this election season, campaigning began against the backdrop of two major factors: the impact of the State's flagship scheme providing financial aid for women, the Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana; and the effect of Maratha reservation debate with the resultant polarisation of Maratha and other backward class (OBC) vote banks.

The ruling Mahayuti initially rode high on its assumption of the success of Majhi Ladki Bahin scheme, under which all eligible women receive ₹1,500 per month in their bank accounts. Five such payments have already been credited. Under that pressure, the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) scrambled to get its act together as its criticism against the scheme failed to stick.

Agrarian distress: Farmers' bodies brought out a Kisan Manifesto that highlighted issues of cotton and soya bean farmers. PTI

The MVA then responded by promising more doles. It targeted the government over rising prices, the politics of divisiveness, unemployment, and the loss of jobs and projects to other States.

Emotional appeals

As the heat of campaigning picked up, parties pitched emotional and religious appeals issues. Pointing to the collapse of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's statue, the MVA claimed that Maharashtrians would not forgive those who treated the deity of the State in this way.

The Bharatiya Janata Party, on the other hand, wielded the fear-mongering slogan of '*Batoge to Katoge*'. In his only rally in Mumbai during this campaign, Prime Minister Narendra Modi appealed to voters, saying, "*Ek hein toh safe hein*."

"In the Lok Sabha election, Ayodhya was the key issue raised by the BJP, but it did not work. They thought of bringing about Hindu vote polarisation in Maharashtra this time by saying, '*batenge toh katenge*'. But this kind of a narrative suits the cow belt. Here, there was open opposition from [Mahayuti leaders] Ajit Pawar, Pankaja Munde, Ashok Chavan. So that issue was relegated to the background," said Vivek Bhavsar, an independent journalist.

The issues of soya bean and cotton farmers, however, only found the spotlight in recent days. They had not found even a mention in any of the six manifestos of the political parties. Maharashtra is the second largest soya bean producer in India.

While the Congress was the first to announce an MSP of ₹7,000 per quintal and a bonus for soya bean, the BJP was quick to catch up through similar announcements.

"Though farmers are not a consolidated vote bank, this issue made the ruling parties keep aside their Hindutva agenda and focus on this. Other issues failed, but the farmers' unrest took the centre-stage," said Mr. Bhavsar.

"These demands are vital to the people of the State. I am happy that it has finally been brought to the forefront in the political campaigning," P. Sainath, the founding editor of the People's Archive of Rural India, and one of the drafters of the Kisan Manifesto, told *The Hindu*.

JMM-Cong. will turn Ranchi into Karachi: Giriraj

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

Ahead of the second phase of polling in Jharkhand, Union Minister Giriraj Singh on Tuesday said the Hemant Soren government had been trying to turn "Ranchi into Karachi", and districts such as Dumka, Sahibganj and Deoghar into Bangladesh.

He said that women who wear burkha should be allowed to vote only after verification. He alleged that the Congress and its allies only "divide" society.

Tawde accused of distributing cash; case filed

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI/NEW DELHI

A day ahead of the Maharashtra Assembly election, political tensions soared on Tuesday as the Bahujan Vikas Aaghadi (BVA) accused Bharatiya Janata Party national general secretary Vinod Tawde of distributing cash to party workers at a hotel near Mumbai.

The police have filed two FIRs in connection with the incident.

The BJP and Mr. Tawde denied the allegation, but the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) criticised Mr. Tawde and the BJP for engaging in "cash-for-votes", "note jihad", and misuse of the government machinery.

The row erupted after BVA workers released a video allegedly showing Mr. Tawde distributing money out of a bag at a hotel in Virar. BVA leader Hitendra Thakur said ₹5 crore was being distributed to influence voters.

Tense stand-off

According to reports, BVA workers confronted Mr. Tawde at the hotel, leading to a tense stand-off as supporters from both sides gathered. Mr. Thakur alleged that Mr. Tawde called him multiple times, asking to be allowed to leave.

The BVA also claimed to have seized a diary from Mr. Tawde's meeting with BJP leader Rajan Naik, allegedly detailing cash distribution records.

Vinod Tawde

Election officials later confirmed seizing ₹9.93 lakh in cash and documents during a raid at the hotel with two FIRs being registered at the Tulinj police station. District Collector and election officer Govind Bodke said the department received complaints from the BVA about the alleged cash distribution.

Following the complaint, a team of election officials and police went to the hotel and carried out an inspection, he said.

'Thorough probe'

MVA leaders called for a thorough Election Commission probe, with the Congress's Maharashtra incharge, Ramesh Chennithala, demanding Mr. Tawde's arrest. Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Uddhav Thackeray called the act "note jihad".

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge alleged on X that the BJP was using "money power" to manipulate the elections.

Mr. Tawde denied the accusations, stating he was merely attending a meeting. He called for an impartial investigation by the Election Commission.

The BJP backed Mr. Tawde and dismissed the charges as baseless.

At a press conference, BJP MP Sudhanshu Trivedi said there was no evidence whatsoever of cash distribution at the hotel. "CCTV cameras are installed at the hotel, their footage should be checked. They are also making a false allegation about ₹5 crore in cash, of which there is not even an iota of proof," he said.

BJP levels bitcoin trade allegations against MVA leaders Supriya and Patole

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

On the eve of polling in Maharashtra, the Bharatiya Janata Party on Tuesday accused State Congress president Nana Patole and Nationalist Congress Party (SP) leader Supriya Sule of possible links to illegal trade in bitcoins.

Supriya Sule and Nana Patole

At a press conference at the BJP's national headquarters in the evening, party spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi referred to media reports, certain audio files and a WhatsApp chat on the issue.

"These videos and chats show that a dealer gets in touch with a former police person, who had left service under a cloud, to help him in encashing and moving the proceeds of a bitcoin transaction. It also purports to show interactions between the dealer, named Gaurav Mehta, and Nana Patole and Supriya Sule on the same issue, in which the dealer is being assured that if the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) comes to power, no inquiry into the transaction will take place," Mr. Trivedi said.

He added that since these revelations had come out owing to "media reports", the BJP wanted to put some questions to the Congress and its MVA partners. "Our first question is whether the Congress is involved in bitcoin transactions and whether these are legal or illegal. Next, whether they have had any knowledge or interactions with the dealer mentioned in the tapes, Gaurav Mehta, or a person mentioned by him, a Mr. Gupta," he said.

"The audio tapes clearly make a mention of a fear of some 'big people', we want to know who these big people are," the BJP leader added.

'MVA's track record'

He said the track record of the MVA while in the government was such that people would believe these allegations.

"This was a government where the State Home Minister was accused of extorting ₹100 crore a month by the Police Commissioner, with the Minister then landing in jail and the Police Commissioner absconding," he said.

Sule files complaint

Ms. Sule has filed a criminal complaint with the cybercrime department and wrote to the Election Commission against what she termed "fake allegations of bitcoin misappropriation".

"The intent and malafide actors behind it are amply evident, condemn worthy that such practices are taking place in a healthy democracy guided by the Constitution of India," she posted on social media platform X (formerly Twitter). She categorically denied the allegations, and said she was ready to hold a debate with the BJP over the issue.

In the run-up to the Assembly election, the State saw several serious incidents, including an attack on former State Home Minister Anil Deshmukh.

From Baramati to Thane, key fights that will decide Maharashtra's fate

Snehal Mutha
MUMBAI

Maharashtra's political landscape altered dramatically after the splits in two major regional parties – the Shiv Sena and the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) – creating new equations, ideological leanings, and alliances. It has also set the stage for an exhilarating contest as the State goes to the polls on Wednesday, with high-stakes battles in at least 15 constituencies, including the Pawar vs Pawar fight in Baramati.

From Baramati to Nagpur, Worli and Thane, here are the key battles that will decide the fate of Maharashtra's Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Ministers, critical to the political legacy of parties in a flux.

Pawar vs Pawar

In Baramati, NCP candidate and Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar's work in the constituency will be judged against Brand Sharad Pawar's power to propel debutant Yugendra Pawar of the NCP(SP) to victory. "If [Mr. Ajit Pawar] suffers a setback, his bargaining position will be reduced, and his party's power will decrease. This will also impact Maharashtra politics as a few MLAs might go with other parties," said Suhas Kulkarni, a Pune-based political observer.

On duty: Polling staff collecting EVMs before leaving for their respective polling booths in Nagpur on Tuesday. ANI

If it's about political survival for Mr. Ajit Pawar, then the challenge for his fellow Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis will be to regain the top spot. "Mr. Fadnavis will face a threat from Eknath Shinde, as he has been running his own horses and as a CM, he did not fail. He maintained both BJP and NCP and carried the government," said Hemant Desai, a Mumbai-based political analyst.

The Nagpur South West constituency will also pose a tough challenge for Mr. Fadnavis, who will face off against former corporator Praful Vinodrao Gudadhe of the Congress in a direct fight. The constituency has been a bastion of the BJP leader since 1999, but anti-incumbency sentiments, and voters' discontent about unemployment and inflation have made this a tight contest.

In the Mumbai Metropolitan Region, Thane's Kopri-Pachpakhadi seat will see Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, seeking a fourth term, clash with the rival Shiv Sena (UBT)'s candidate Kedar Dighe, who is the nephew of Mr. Shinde's late mentor Anand Dighe.

Political legacies in flux

The split among the regional parties has also led to interesting battles of Sena vs Sena (UBT) in 49 seats and NCP vs NCP (SP) in 36 seats. A few constituencies will see a battle of scions, including Mumbai's Worli, where the Shiv Sena's Milind Deora is pitched against incumbent Worli MLA Aaditya Thackeray of the Sena (UBT). Mr. Deora's candidacy is seen as a way to woo Gujarati-Marwadi voters, whereas Mr. Aaditya has an edge due to his presence and work in Worli.

Another crucial battle will unfold in Mumbai's Bandra East and Mahim, which are considered prestige seats. Bandra East will see NCP candidate Zeeshan Siddique competing against the Shiv Sena (UBT)'s Varun Sardesai, cousin of Aaditya Thackeray. This will be Mr. Siddique's first election after the assassination of his father and slain leader, Baba Siddique. Mr. Siddique is banking on the sympathy factor, whereas Mr. Sardesai hopes to capitalise on local issues and his door-to-door strategies.

This time, Maharashtra will also witness next-generation political heirs of seasoned politicians posing challenges to established leaders. Mahim is a triangular fight between the Shiv Sena's incumbent MLA, Sada Sarvankar, the Shiv Sena UBT's Mahesh Sawant, and Amit Thackeray, the political heir of Maharashtra Navnirman Sena chief Raj Thackeray.

Two interesting contests are in Sindhudurg district, where a statue of Shivaji Maharaj recently collapsed, resulting in corruption allegations against the Mahayuti government. Former Chief Minister Narayan Rane's sons, former Shiv Sena MP Nilesh Rane and sitting BJP MLA Nitesh Rane, will contest from Kudal and Kankavali, respectively, against Shiv Sena (UBT) candidates Vaibhav Naik and Sandesh Parkar.

BJP demands action against Aaditya for 'MCC violation'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Bharatiya Janata Party Mumbai secretary Pratik Karpe on Tuesday lodged a formal complaint with the Election Commission (EC) against Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aaditya Thackeray for allegedly violating the Model Code of Conduct (MCC). The complaint pertains to an X post by Mr. Thackeray on Tuesday, which the BJP claims was objectionable and aimed at discrediting the party without substantiating evidence.

The BJP alleges that Mr. Thackeray's post, written in Marathi, was a breach of the Election Commission's guidelines, which prohibit direct or indirect campaigning within 48 hours before voting. With polling in Maharashtra scheduled for Wednesday, the BJP has called for strict action against the Sena (UBT) leader for allegedly attempting to influence public opinion during the mandated silence period.

"By making baseless accusations against the BJP, Aaditya Thackeray is not only violating the norms but also trying to spread hatred and mislead voters," Mr. Karpe said. He urged the EC to thoroughly investigate the matter and suspend Mr. Thackeray's social media account to prevent further violations.

INBRIEF

Chidambaram moves Delhi HC in Aircel-Maxis case

Senior Congress leader P. Chidambaram moved the Delhi High Court on Tuesday against a trial court's order taking cognisance of the chargesheet filed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) against him and his son, Karti Chidambaram, in the Aircel-Maxis case. The case relates to alleged irregularities in the grant of Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) approval in the Aircel-Maxis deal. The approval was granted in 2006 when Mr. Chidambaram was the Union Finance Minister. The court has now posted the case for further hearing on Wednesday.

I&B Ministry officials' salaries linked to govt. training course

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting issued an office memorandum on Monday stating that "salary of their officials will be cleared only upon completion of mandatory Integrated Government Online Training courses". Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently launched the National Learning Week aimed at developing skills of civil servants. iGOT is an online learning platform that provides training to government employees. According to the memorandum, "all Principal Accounts Offices of Ministry are directed to clear the salary bills of only those officials who have been certified by the Drawing and Disbursing Officer and Head of Office regarding their completion of iGOT courses.''

SC flags delay in delimitation process in northeastern States

The Supreme Court on Tuesday flagged the delay in carrying out the delimitation exercise in Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Assam, despite a 2020 Presidential order rescinding the deferment of the process. A Bench headed by Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna asked Additional Solicitor-General K.M. Natraj, appearing for the Centre, to take instructions on the future course of action. The law officer submitted that while consultations were under way in Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland, the situation was not conducive in Manipur owing to the ongoing violence in the State. The next hearing is scheduled for January 2025.

INBRIEF

Govt. asks States, U.T.s to hold surveys on household latrines

The Centre has directed all States and Union Territories to conduct ground-level surveys to identify existing gaps and expedite the construction of individual household latrines as part of World Toilet Day on Tuesday. Also, to reinforce efforts towards sustaining the Open Defecation Free (ODF) status, it has directed that registration drives and camps be organised. The Centre said that India has launched the campaign *'Hamara Shauchalay: Hamara Samman'*, linking sanitation with human rights and the universal need for dignity and privacy.

Delhi HC summons OpenAI on ANI's plea against ChatGPT

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday issued summons to OpenAI, which operates ChatGPT, in a suit filed by *Asian News International* (ANI) over the use of its news content "without any licence or permission", to provide services to its users. It alleged OpenAI of unlawfully storing its content, which are then used to train the Large Language Model (LLM) to generate results by "extensively copying or closely summarising the plaintiff's (ANI) works". "These results reproduce the exclusive content and emulate even the manner of presentation of the plaintiff's works without any authorisation," ANI said.

Govt. allows self-survey for Phase 2 of PM Awas Yojana

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

For the first time since the beginning of the flagship rural housing scheme – Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin – in 2016, the Union Rural Development Ministry is allowing "self-survey" for beneficiaries. For the second phase of the PMAY-G programme, which has a target of 2 crore houses, the Centre is conducting a survey to identify the beneficiaries. As part of this, training of 2.6 lakh surveyors was completed last week.

"This is to ensure that no one is left behind. It also leaves little ground for complaints that a surveyor did not include a household because of bias or prejudice," an official at the Ministry said.

The government is using mobile application, Awaas+, for recording the data. The limitation for the self survey is that multiple applications or beneficiaries cannot be surveyed using one phone.

In August, the Union Cabinet had sanctioned a total outlay of ₹3,06,137 crore for the second phase of the scheme.

Paying 'huge costs' for climate action, says India at COP29

Countries have entered into final week of negotiations; India says that developed countries must show leadership in mitigation actions

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

As part of India's official statement on Tuesday at the Conference of Parties (COP29) in Baku, Union Minister of State Kirti Vardhan Singh said "huge costs" were being levied upon India for the voluntary "climate action" it was undertaking.

Countries have entered into the final week of negotiations and are expected to decide on a new financial target that would facilitate the global transition away from a fossil fuel economy.

"COP29 is the COP for Climate Finance – the New Collective Quantified Goals on Climate Finance for mobilising climate finance for meeting the needs and priorities of developing countries. We all need to appreciate that huge costs are being imposed on a developing country like ours for undertaking climate actions," India submitted.

Bold remark: Union Minister of State for Environment Kirti Vardhan Singh during the COP29 event in Baku on Tuesday. AP

Countries are expected to update next year their voluntary commitments to curb emissions from the use of fossil fuel, known as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), the upper limit of carbon emissions that the atmosphere can support, to have a shot at preventing temperatures from going past the 1.5 degrees Celsius mark, it was likely to breached by the end of the decade, India noted.

"It is imperative, therefore, that the developed countries show leadership in mitigation actions, as required under Paris Agreement, by not just advancing their net zero targets but providing enough carbon space for developing countries like ours to develop," the statement added.

Despite not being a contributor to the problem, countries in the Global South are bearing a huge financial burden on account of climate actions for mitigation on the one hand, and losses and damages caused by climate change on the other, thus severely limiting their capacity to meet their developmental needs, India underlined.

Study finds 3 drug combos effective against high BP

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

The Centre for Chronic Disease Control (CCDC), a non-profit organisation, on Tuesday announced the completion of a study on drug treatment optimisation for blood pressure in India.

The research initiative tested the effectiveness of three double anti-hypertensive pill combinations in South Asian populations with uncontrolled hypertension. Conducted over two years in collaboration with the All India Institute of Medical Sciences and Imperial College, London, the study demonstrated that all the three combinations were equally effective and safe in regulating blood pressure.

The study evaluated amlodipine and perindopril, amlodipine and indapamide, and perindopril and indapamide, and revealed that all three combinations were similarly effective in achieving blood pressure (BP) control.

South Asians account for 25% of the global population, and India alone is burdened with over 300 million individuals with high BP. This is the first randomised study to test the choice of anti-hypertensive in them.

Nearly 70% of participants were able to acheive blood pressure below 140/90 mmHg.

"These findings will provide clinicians a road map for addressing the burden of hypertension," the release said.

The key results notes that blood pressure control was achieved in approximately 70% of the participants to less than 140/90 mmHg.

This is five times the current BP control rates in India with just a single pill and that all combinations demonstrated an excellent safety profile, with less than 3% of participants withdrawing due to adverse effects, attesting to the tolerability of study drugs.

T.N. has highest number of women councillors: report

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

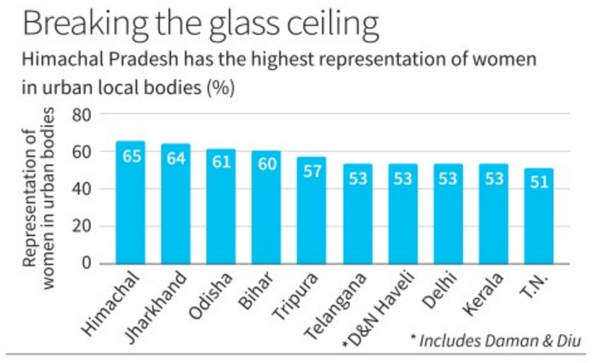
Nearly 46% of the councillors in India are women, and in 19 out of the 21 capital cities that have active urban local bodies, including Patna, Shimla, Ranchi and Bhubaneswar, the figure goes well over 60%.

Among the States, Tamil Nadu has the highest number of women councillors, according to a road map on urban transformation in India released on Tuesday.

The other States in the top 10 are Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Bihar and Chhattisgarh.

According to the report "Road map for India's city-systems reforms" by Janaagraha, a not-for-profit organisation, 17 States have legislated for 50% women's quota, over the constitutional minimum of 33%.

The road map offers three pathways for India's urban transformation, namely place-based governance of India's cities, decentralised participatory governance, and building State capacities.



It makes a strong case for implementing a rural-urban transition policy to facilitate planned urbanisation of fast-urbanising villages, highlighting that approximately 1,000 of them have already transitioned to cities since Census 2011.

In order to embed place-based governance in the governments, it makes an important recommendation to reimagine the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and State Urban departments as Ministries or departments for regional economies and local governments, which are organised around regions and focused on strengthening local self-government institutions, and not just around sectors, schemes, and funding sources.

It reiterates the significance of strengthening local governments and facilitating citizen participation through the amendment and implementation of the 74th constitutional amendment.

SC to examine plea of actor Amol Palekar on film censorship

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday decided to examine veteran actor Amol Palekar's plea that the fate of cinematic art banked on the "erratic, subjective interpretation" of the members of the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC), whose essential qualifications are not even specified in law.

A Bench of Justices B.R. Gavai and K.V. Viswanathan decided to hear in January Mr. Palekar's petition, pending since 2017, that the Cinematograph Act of 1952 does not specify any qualifications for the members of the Board and/or the examining committee or revising committee or even the Film Certification Appellate Tribunal.

Mr. Palekar, represented by senior advocate Arvind Datar, said this nebulousness in cinema law almost guaranteed the "subjective interpretation of overboard, imprecise guidelines in the hands of unqualified Members". How could members whose qualifications were not specified sanction what films were fit for public viewing and require filmmakers to make cuts, deletions, and alterations, he said. "This is a very unfair and unreasonable restriction on the filmmakers' freedom of speech," Mr. Palekar said in his petition.

The veteran actor and filmmaker had approached the top court after three of his documentaries – *Aakriet*, *Daayara* and *Thaang/Quest* – were subject to many hurdles for certification.

Mr. Palekar argued that documentaries should be excluded from the purview of the 1952 Act. He contended that a documentary did not fall within the definition of a "cinematograph film" under Section 2(c) and 2(dd) of the Act.

Daniel Barenboim and Ali Abu Awwad presented Indira Gandhi Peace Prize

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament, and Development for 2023 was presented to classical pianist and conductor Daniel Barenboim and Palestinian peace activist Ali Abu Awwad on Tuesday.

Mr. Barenboim was selected for his contribution to foster peace through musical and cultural dialogue initiatives and Mr. Awwad for his advocacy for dialogue through his organisation Roots, an outfit that he started after spending time in jail.

Accepting the prize, Mr. Awwad recounted that he was imprisoned in Israel in 1990 when he and his mother carried out a hunger strike for 17 days. "What makes us human is our ability to recognise each other and protect dignity. This is what makes us human," he said.

The Indira Gandhi Peace Prize was presented to Daniel Barenboim, left, and Ali Abu Awwad on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

He recounted that he was hurt when his brother was shot and killed by Israeli soldiers but he decided not to seek revenge. "Because I was strong enough to let go."

He recounted his meetings with Israeli victims who had died because of Palestinian attacks, and said that he found humanity among the Jewish victims of violence as well.

"I realised that my enemies were not just enemies. There was a tremendous humanity behind. I could see the Jewish humanity," he said, adding, "Our non violence struggle for Palestinian struggle has to pass through Jewish hearts and not through Jewish bodies."

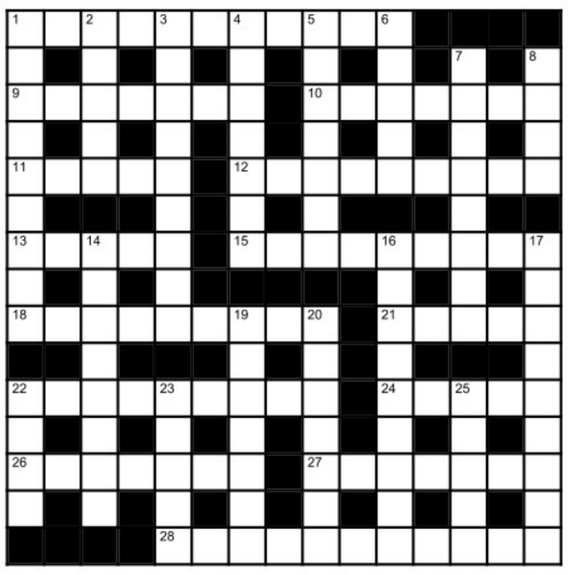
In his remark, Shivshankar Menon, former Foreign Secretary and member of the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust, described the initiatives by Mr. Barenboim and Mr. Awwad as "exemplary". The event was held in virtual mode.

TH CROSSWORD + 14335

(set by Afterdark)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Fit to steal (11)
9 Say, one from Nigeria can receive fair play (7)
10 Displays a dog's head inside? No, it's dogs (7)
11 Topic of those people - to procure drugs (5)
12 Secure right inside, bad debts heartlessly collected (9)
13 First lady has book business (5)
15 Holy man worried, people tense with announcement (9)
18 Say, youngsters have support, trouble's overcoming hesitation (9)
21 Bengali gentleman's at a corner, observe (5)
22 Quality of tea? Light at the end in stock, right! (9)
24 Sisters are full of love for places, things, animals etc (5)
26 Painful back, one on wear (7)
27 Senior struggling to control one who is more loud (7)
28 Underground society in a country (11)

Down

1 Statecraft by individuals at Thailand is flat (9)
2 Fantastic, super pouch (5)
3 Group put fish in box, right? No, the other way round (9)
4 Estates managed by revolutionary's primarily socialistic (7)
5 Asia tour arranged omitting old country (7)
6 Eradicate cholera selectively, not entirely (5)
7 Neither partner's article on force pertains to direction (8)
8 Employed? Outspend frequently (4)
14 Cruel Eva tortured hiding in lift (8)
16 Key German city on trial to end racism primarily (9)
17 Arrest Sue distributing fortunes (9)
19 Former lover taking money at cantonment banks terminated (7)
20 Saint called Chief Executive? It's odd (7)
22 Bolt loses lead in team (4)
23 The greatest being. oddly dismissed as stranger (5)
25 University (Oxford) joins new coalition (5)

SUDOKU

			2			8	9	6
			6			5		
		9					4	
				7		2	5	
	2	7		1		4	3	
	8	4		5				
	4					3		
		2			4			
1	3	6			9			

No.SS6345 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to previous puzzle

P	B	D	G	S	U	P	D	
A	C	A	D	E	M	E	C	O
T	Z	L	E	I	D	R	S	
H	E	A	T	I	N	G	A	V
O	A			E	T	R	D	R
S	E	R	E	N	G	E	T	I
			O			C	T	S
C	O	A	T	I	N	G	A	M
O	C	S	O				T	
A	G	A	P	E	L	I	P	R
L	D	M	D	A			R	I
E	Y	E	B	A	L	L	S	E
S	M	K	E	T	A	V	H	
C	H	I	M	E	R	A	E	A
E	C	R	F	L	T	R	O	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	5	2	9	3	6	1	7	8
7	6	9	5	8	1	3	2	4
1	8	3	4	7	2	6	5	9
8	2	7	3	1	4	5	9	6
9	3	1	8	6	5	7	4	2
5	4	6	7	2	9	8	3	1
6	9	8	2	5	3	4	1	7
3	7	4	1	9	8	2	6	5
2	1	5	6	4	7	9	8	3

FAITH

Annapoorni, the provider

The legend of Annapoorni is fabled and well known as the mother of bounty, providing food to all those who need it without any shortages. Her name has Poorna - completeness - in it, signifying a lesser appreciated aspect that she nourishes not just the body but also is a source of *gnana* (wisdom), said P. Swaminathan in a discourse.

Annapoorni sthalams are established in temples all over the country but the foremost amongst them is the Annapoorni in Kasi. Here, the deity is seen holding grains in one hand and a ladle in the other, symbolising her status as a nourisher. The Annapoorni deity in Kasi is on a par with Kasi Viswanatha for many reasons. Foremost, it is here that Lord Siva received 'dosha parihar' from the goddess, for removing the fifth head of Brahma, which had become a repository of ego. However, despite the act being for a good cause, there was a sin attached to it. Siva's hand underwent purification from that act, when he got *bhiksha* (alms) from Annapoorni. It is also here that Shree Annapoorni descended on earth and relieved the people of Kasi from the severe famine they were reeling under.

The immense power of the deity is captured in Adi Sankara's Sree Annapoorna Stotram, wherein he beseeches the goddess to nourish him not only with food but also grant him *gnana* and mental strength. "Oh the giver of nutrient food... Oh Parvati devi, give me as alms wisdom and mental strength so that I am never deficient in these... Oh Parvati Annapoorna, always full of benevolence, grant us alms for the sake of securing knowledge and detachment," he says. Those who chant Sree Annapoorna Stotram every day will not be deficient in any form of nourishment.

INBRIEF

Sensex, Nifty break a seven-day declining streak

Benchmark Sensex rebounded 239 points while Nifty ended its seven-day losing streak on Tuesday following value-buying in banking, IT and auto shares amid mixed global trends. Snapping its four days of decline, the 30-share Sensex climbed 239.37 points, or 0.31%, to settle at 77,578.38. The index opened with gains and spurted further 1,112.64 points, or 1.43% to hit the day's high of 78,451.65. However, a fag-end decline in RIL restricted the market rally. PTI

Tata Power, Druk Green to develop clean energy projects

Tata Power on Tuesday said it had entered into a strategic partnership with Bhutan's Druk Green Power Corporation Ltd. (DGPC) for the development of 5,000 MW of clean energy capacity in the Himalayan nation. DGPC is a subsidiary of Druk Holding and Investments Ltd.. The collaboration marks the largest partnership between two of the leading power companies of the two nations in Asia's clean energy sector, Tata Power said in a statement. PTI

Oil India, TotalEnergies ink pact for methane detection

Oil India has signed a cooperation agreement with TotalEnergies for conducting methane emissions detection and measurement campaigns at its sites in India using the French multinational's Airborne Ultralight Spectrometer for Environmental Applications gas analyser technology. The two entities also inked a technical service agreement to facilitate collaboration with a specific focus on drilling of stratigraphic wells in Indian offshore waters.

India, U.K. to re-launch trade talks in new year: Starmer

Talks have dragged on with more than 14 rounds of trade talks that have outlasted two U.K. Prime Ministers; New trade deal with India will support jobs and prosperity in the U.K., says Starmer

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

Trade diplomacy: Britain PM Sir Keir Starmer at a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the G20 summit at the Museum of Modern Art in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. REUTERS

India and the U.K. have decided to re-launch discussions to conclude a 'free trade' deal in the new year, following the election of a new Labour government in the U.K.

The announcement of the imminent resumption of talks, which began in 2022 during the Boris Johnson Conservative government, was announced by U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer, following a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Rio de Janeiro, on the fringes of the G20 Summit.

"A new trade deal with India will support jobs and prosperity in the U.K. - and represent a step forward in our mission to deliver growth and opportunity across our country," Mr. Starmer said. Bilateral trade between the two countries is valued at £42 billion ($53.2 billion) in the twelve months to June 2024, according to official U.K. data.

India and the U.K. have concluded most of the 26 chapters under discussion but talks have dragged on with over 14 rounds of trade talks which have outlasted two U.K. Prime Ministers (Mr. Johnson and Rishi Sunak). The last round of talks was held in March, after which India – and then the U.K. – went to the polls.

"India is the fifth largest economy in the world and a vital trading partner for the U.K. We believe there is a good deal to be done here that works for both nations," said U.K. Business and Trade Secretary Johnathan Reynolds.

The U.K. is seeking to deepen cooperation in areas education, security, technology and climate change, Downing Street said in a statement.

"They also welcomed the recent launch of the Technology Security Initiative, and discussed the opportunities for further cooperation on defence and security," Downing Street said, adding that the prime ministers reaffirmed the strength of the cultural ties between the two countries as a basis for further cooperation.

Prime Minister Modi announced the opening of two consulates in Belfast and Manchester, the government said in its readout of the meeting. PM Modi also brought up the issue of economic offenders with his counterpart.

Economic offenders

"[The] Prime Minister noted the importance of addressing the issue of economic offenders from India in the U.K.. The two leaders also agreed on the need to make progress on issues related to migration and mobility," the readout from New Delhi said.

The government has been seeking the extradition of businessman and former politician Vijay Mallya and diamond merchant Nirav Modi.

Both readouts refer to the India-U.K. Comprehensive Strategic Partnership but are silent on the '2030 Roadmap', a pathway to deepening the relationship, agreed in 2021 by the Johnson and Modi governments.

The Hindu reached out to Downing Street for comment on whether the Starmer government was committed to the Roadmap, but did not receive a response.

Meta to appeal CCI's ₹213-cr. fine on WhatsApp privacy policy change

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Meta, the parent company of WhatsApp, on Tuesday said it would appeal against the ₹213.14 crore penalty imposed by the Competition Commission of India (CCI) over the messaging app's 2021 privacy policy update.

"We disagree with the CCI's decision and plan to appeal. As a reminder, the 2021 update did not change the privacy of people's personal messages and was offered as a choice for users at the time. We also ensured no one would have their accounts deleted or lose functionality of the WhatsApp service because of this update," a Meta spokesperson said in a statement.

"The update was about introducing optional business features on WhatsApp, and provided further transparency about how we collect and use data," the spokesperson added.

"Data protection laws apply universally to all entities handling personal data," the CCI had observed in its order on Monday, on Meta's stance that both competition law and privacy law should not simultaneously apply to WhatsApp. "In contrast, Section 4 of the [Competition] Act specifically applies only to dominant entities, imposing additional obligations to prevent abuse of market power," the CCI noted.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	77,578	0.31%
US Dollar	84.42	0.00
Gold	78,050	0.77
Brent oil	72.96	-0.27

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2821.50	2.80
Adani Ports	1289.65	10.35
Apollo Hosp	6686.90	-55.00
Asian Paints	2483.70	0.00
Axis Bank	1133.95	7.75
Bajaj Auto	9545.70	29.20
Bajaj Finserv	1596.35	-19.65
Bajaj Finance	6595.30	27.35
Bharat Elec	279.00	0.95
Bharti Airtel	1525.50	-11.50
BPCL	287.50	-1.70
Britannia Ind	4892.70	-18.65
Cipla	1471.55	6.30
Coal India	412.25	-1.10
Dr Reddys Lab	1213.45	19.90
Eicher Motors	4965.45	89.80
Grasim Ind	2508.15	-9.00
HCL Tech	1820.55	-14.45
HDFC Bank	1742.25	37.15
HDFC Life	680.40	-10.10
Hero MotoCorp	4775.80	42.80
Hindalco	640.00	-11.05
Hind Unilever	2410.35	-12.55
ICICI Bank	1249.10	-4.35
IndusInd Bank	1000.20	-4.40
Infosys	1824.75	13.30
ITC	467.35	0.80
JSW Steel	947.30	-2.55
Kotak Bank	1727.75	5.00
L&T	3505.90	-36.25
M&M	2948.95	102.05
Maruti Suzuki	10959.30	-134.65
NestleIndia	2214.15	0.95
NTPC	366.70	0.00
ONGC	248.00	-2.65
PowerGrid Corp	315.05	3.00
Reliance Ind	1241.65	-19.10
SBI Life	1522.90	-39.70
State Bank	803.00	-11.30
Shriram Finance Ltd.	2824.75	-23.40
Sun Pharma	1777.25	29.50
TataConsumerProduct	917.15	-13.60
Tata Motors	783.20	11.30
Tata Steel	139.46	-1.75
TCS	4039.55	20.05
Tech Mahindra	1699.65	38.85
Titan	3224.70	52.40
Trent Ltd.	6423.85	122.20
UltraTech Cement	10769.55	138.65
Wipro	562.00	9.15

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on November 19

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	84.22	84.54
Euro	88.87	89.21
British Pound	106.39	106.80
Japanese Yen (100)	54.74	54.95
Chinese Yuan	11.63	11.68
Swiss Franc	95.35	95.72
Singapore Dollar	62.83	63.08
Canadian Dollar	60.07	60.31
Malaysian Ringitt	18.82	18.91

Source:Indian Bank

'GST council to decide on tax cut on EV batteries'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The government is cognisant of the auto industry's demand for reducing GST on electric vehicle (EV) batteries as well as charging as a service from 18% to 5%, but the final call will be taken by the GST Council, Tarun Kapoor, Advisor at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said on Tuesday.

"We understand that taxation is a major issue so that the industry remains viable and competitive," he said at an event organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

Heavy Industries Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, too, backed the industry demand for the GST cut.

Bima Sugam will help curb insurance mis-selling: IRDAI chief

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Debasish Panda

A day after Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman flagged 'forced selling' of insurance products by banks, the chairperson of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) Debasish Panda said that the new Bima Sugam platform would help resolve the issue to an extent.

Bima Sugam, backed by the IRDAI, is a digital platform showcasing insurance products for customers to choose from.

Mr. Panda, however, maintained that selling insurance through banks was a "useful system."

"Banks, with a long-standing and continuous relationship with customers, offer a unique opportunity to build trust and enhance distribution efficiency, creating a robust ecosystem for inclusion," he said on the second day of the SBI Banking and Economics Conclave 2024, here on Tuesday. He, however, admitted there were glitches in the system that required attention.

HC directs SFIO not to quiz Chanda Kochhar beyond office hours

Purnima Sah
MUMBAI

The Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) informed the Bombay High Court on Tuesday that it would not interrogate former ICICI Bank CEO and managing director Chanda Kochhar, beyond office hours. Ms. Kochhar had filed a plea in the High Court contending that senior citizens like her should not be summoned and interrogated beyond working hours.

The SFIO officials had summoned Ms. Kochhar for questioning on November 22, 2024.

Hearing the plea, a Division Bench of Justice Revati Mohite-Dere and Justice Prithviraj K. Chavan granted interim relief to Ms. Kochhar and directed the SFIO not to take coercive action against her. The Bench also mandated that any questioning of Ms. Kochhar should take place only during office hours.

Advocate Rohan Dakshini filed the plea for Ms. Kochhar immediately after the SFIO issued a summon for interrogating her on November 22.

Advocate Amit Desai argued that the summon was made after a three-year gap in a case that Ms. Kochhar was already being investigated for.

On October 25, 2024, the High Court ruled that no coercive action should be taken against Ms. Kochhar's businessman husband Deepak Kochhar by the SFIO and that he should not be questioned beyond office hours.

HC orders status quo on TAFE's usage of Massey Ferguson brand

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

A Division Bench of the Madras High Court has directed that status quo be maintained with regard to Tractors and Farm Equipment's (TAFE) usage rights of the Massey Ferguson brand.

The judgement pronounced on November 18 recognises TAFE's usage of the brand for more than six decades, the leading tractor producer said in a statement.

The High Court had directed that the ownership and other related issues would be decided by the single judge of the Madras High Court before whom the applications were pending.

The order further extends the status quo already granted to TAFE in April 2024, and the latest of several judicial orders protecting TAFE's rights to the use of the Massey Ferguson brand. Incorporated in 1960 in Chennai, TAFE is the second-largest producers of tractors in India by volume. Annually, it sells over 1,80,000 tractors.

TAFE tractors are exported to more than 80 countries, powering farms in Asia, Africa, Europe, the Americas, and Russia.

Earlier in September, TAFE said it had filed a contempt petition against U.S.-based AGCO Corporation alleging disobedience of orders of a Commercial Court in Chennai.

TAFE had also asserted its claims over the ownership of the Massey Ferguson brand.

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS - TIRUPATI
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER — **TENDER NOTICE**

Adv.No.32/D3/CE/TTD/2024-25 & NIT No.199/SE-II/TTD/2024-25 Dt:17/11/2024.
Name of Work: (1) Operation and Maintenance of 11 KV/415 V Electrical Sub-Station, Transformer, DG Set, AMF, APFC Panel, LT Panel etc., pertaining to DE (Elec), Tirumala for a period of 2 years, Open Tender Type, Time for completion 24 months.
NOTE: For full details log on to the Website **https://www.tirumala.org.**
TTD-40021(31)/1/2024-PRO SEC (Adv.No.230) Date:19-11-2024 — **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

RAJASTHAN LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Pashudhan Bhawan Parisar, Tonk Road, Jaipur, Phone : 0141-4064974
Email – rldb.ah@rajasthan.gov.in, rldbraj@gmail.com
No. :- FV( ) RLDB/sheath-Sleeve/2024/6446 — Dated :- 18/11/2024
Corrigendum
This is with reference to Bid No. FV()RLDB/sheath-Sleeve/2024/5961 dated 28.10.2024 for Procurement of Artificial Insemination Sheaths and Sleeves for Cattle and Buffalo published on **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in (Tender ID-2024_RLDB_429563_1) and http://sppp.raj.nic.in (UBN No.-ANH2425GLRC00199),** some amendments are made in accordance to pre-bid meeting clarification/quarries.Details of amendments can be seen and may be downloaded from the above mentioned websites and RLDB website **(rldb.rajasthan.gov.in).**
Raj.Samwad/C/24/7971 — **Chief Executive Officer**

स्वच्छता जल एवं सामुदायिक स्वास्थ्य परियोजना — **SANITATION WATER AND COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT**
क्रमांकः एफ() सह.खै.क/दाल-घी-तेल/निविदा/निरे/स्वच्छ/2024-25/3771 दिनांकः 14/11/2024
E-TENDER NOTICE:- 06/2024-25
UBN:- SWP2425GLOB00008
Bids are invited from Producers/ Manufacturers/ Wholesalers/ Suppliers for the supply of Chana & Moong Dal at **SAHARIYA (Shahabad) AND KATHODI (Udaipur)** SWACH under Tribal Area Development Department:

S. N.	Details of Commodities	Estimated Total cost (in Rs.)	Bid Security (EMD) (in Rs.)	Bid Fee (in Rs)	Processing Fee (in Rs)
1.	Supply of Moong Dal (ONE KG Pack) Approx. Qty 130000 KG Bi-Monthly supply	397.80 Lacs	Rs. 15,52,200/-	5000/-	2500/-
2.	Supply of Chana Dal (ONE KG Pack) Approx. Qty 130000 KG Bi-Monthly Supply	378.30 Lacs			
	TOTAL	776.10 Lacs			

The Tender/Bid will only be submitted through online tendering system of www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in.
- Bid document download Start date 15-11-2024 time 05.00 P.M.
- Bid submission end date 10-12-2024 time 06.00 PM

DIPR/C/11389/24 — DIRECTOR, SWACH PROJECT UDAIPUR

DELHI TRANSCO LIMITED
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
DTL intends to invite online Two Part Domestic Competitive Bidding (DCB) Tender for **Design, Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 16 Nos. 220/33/11kv, 100MVA Power Transformer at various 220kv substations of DTL on Turnkey Basis in Delhi** against Tender No. **T24R220392.**
For complete details of tender please visit website:-
https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in
(Tender ID No. :2024_DTL_264917_1)
and www.dtl.gov.in
(Tender Reference No.-DTL-9413-191124)
Last date for bid submission:- 08.01.2025 at 01.30 P.M.
All corrigendum, addendum, amendments, time extensions, clarifications etc. to this e-tender will be hosted on the above website only. Bidders should regularly visit website to keep themselves updated.

ONGC ENERGY: Now AND Next — ओएनजीसी — ONGC — ONGC ENERGY: Now AND Next
Regd. Office: Plot No. 5A-5B, Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi- 110070
CIN No L74899DL1993GOI054155 | Website: www.ongcindia.com | Email: secretariat@ongc.co.in
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST NOTICE
ONGC invites Global EOI against EOI No. DLI/CORP-EM-TECH-SER/2024/95628/1395793 for the supply, installation & commissioning of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) for 02 no. of onshore drilling rigs from competent and reputed agencies, which are already engaged in such jobs.
Purpose of this Expression of Interest (EOI) is to solicit EOI responses from interested participants having relevant experience and expertise (details available at ONGC tender portal, https://tenders.ongc.co.in) with proven capabilities of executing the similar project on Battery energy storage for worldwide customers, which will enable ONGC to explore and identify the agencies for future requirement. Interested solution providers, who submit their feedback/express interest, will be called for Technical presentation and discussion for feasibility of BESS in Conventional/ EV/New generation drilling rigs, after 02 weeks of submission of feedback.
Corrigenda, addenda, amendments, time extensions to the EOI (if any) will be posted on the ONGC tender portal only, and no separate notification shall be issued in the press. Prospective participants against the EOI are requested to visit the ONGC tender portal regularly to keep themselves updated.

Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
An Autonomous body under Ministry of MSME, Govt of India
Foundry Nagar, Agra - 282006 (U.P.)
Extension Centre - Coimbatore Organizes
Ethical Hacking
Become a Ethical Hacker and improve network security skills
COURSE CONTENT: 1)Network Security Basics, 2)Wireshark Operating System, 3)Introduction to Ethical Hacking, 4)Foot Printing and Reconnaissance, 5)Scanning Networks, Enumeration and Vulnerability Analysis , 6)System Hacking, 7)Malware Threats, 8)Firewall & IDS, 9)Hacking Web Applications & SQL injection, 10)Hacking Wireless, Cloud Computing & Cryptography.
For Registration
Date : 23, 24, 30th Nov & 1st Dec 24
Time : 06.00 P.M - 09.00 P.M
Fees : 3540/-(Inclusive of GST)
4 Days (week-end) Online Training Program
For more Details: 7358887633, 9600776611, 8667359360
Visit us at:www.ppdcagra.dcmsme.gov.in
E-Certificate will be Awarded
Disclaimer: Be aware of fraudulent activities. We never ask to make payment on any personal account.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, (PC-5) Division, Annex-2 Building, Ground Floor, BBMP Head Office Premises, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560002.
No.EE(PC-5)/TEND/05/2024-25 — Date:19.11.2024
INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER(IFT)
(Through GOK KPP Portal only) — (3rd Call)
The Executive Engineer, Project-Central-5 Division invites tenders for the work detailed in the table below:

Sl. No.	Name of the works
1	Construction of Bridge on the Upstream Side and Outlet No. 2 for the Project 2.0 m Corridor from BTM Layout to Hosur Road along Madiwala Tank Bund Road, Bangalore. Approx. Amt. put to tender: **Rs. 4,07,39,625/-** EMD : **Rs. 4,07,400/-** (Rs. 1.00 lakh through KPPP & Rs. 3.07,400/- through Bank Guarantee.

1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the KPP portal. **2)** Last date for receipt of queries: **25.11.2024 upto 17:30 Hrs. 3)** Pre-bid meeting: **26.11.2024 at 16:00 Hrs. 4)** Last date for submission of tenders: **03.12.2024 upto 17:30 Hrs. 5)** Date of opening of technical bids: **04.12.2024 at 17:30 Hrs.** Further details can be accessed from GoK KPP Portal: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or contact undersigned office.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project - Central-5 Division.

JERUSALEM

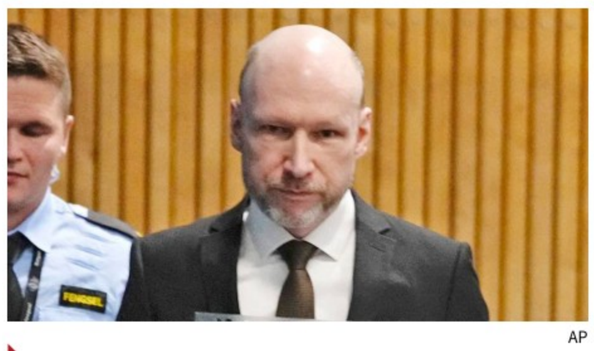
Army says 40 projectiles fired from Lebanon into north, central Israel

REUTERS

The Israeli military said on Tuesday that some 40 projectiles were fired from Lebanon into central and northern Israel, with first responders reporting that four people were lightly injured by shrapnel. The Israeli police said they were searching the impact sites from projectiles intercepted by Israel's air defence systems. AFP

OSLO

Norway killer Breivik asks court for parole 13 years after massacre

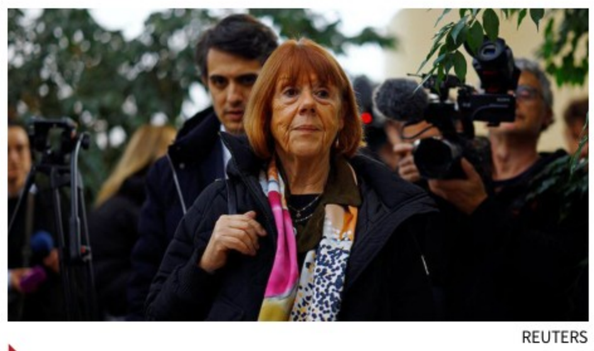


AP

Right-wing extremist Anders Behring Breivik, who killed 77 people in Norway in twin attacks in 2011, on Tuesday asked a court for parole for the second time. His first parole request in January 2022 was denied, with the court concluding there was a "clear risk" he would resume the behaviour that led to the 2011 attacks. AFP

AVIGNON

'Macho' society must change its attitude on rape, says Gisele Pelicot



REUTERS

Gisele Pelicot, the French woman drugged by her ex-husband so she could be raped by him and dozens of strangers, said on Tuesday that it was time for a "macho" society to change its attitude on rape. Since early September her ex-husband Dominique Pelicot has been in the dock along with 49 other men. AFP

BEIJING

Beijing says Myanmar rebel leader is in China for 'medical care'

Beijing said on Tuesday that Peng Deren, the head of the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA), an ethnic minority armed group, had come to China for "medical care", after news reports in its war-torn neighbour this week said he had been arrested on Chinese orders. AFP

Putin signs revised nuclear doctrine amid Ukraine war

Any massive aerial attack on Russia could trigger a nuclear response, it says; the updated doctrine comes after Biden allowed Ukraine to strike deeper in Russia with longer-range U.S. missiles

Associated Press
MOSCOW

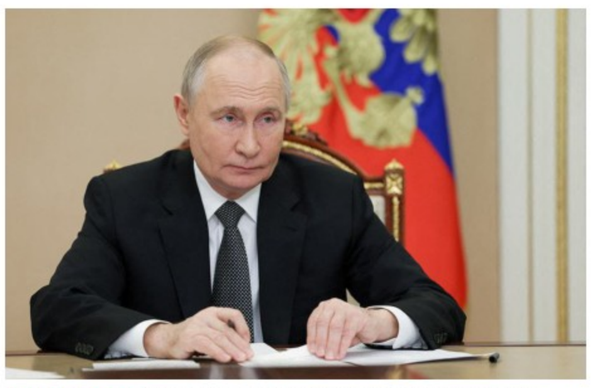
President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday signed a revised nuclear doctrine declaring that a conventional attack on Russia by any nation that is supported by a nuclear power will be considered a joint attack on his country.

Mr. Putin's endorsement of the new nuclear deterrent policy comes on the 1,000th day after he sent troops into Ukraine, on February 24, 2022.

It follows U.S. President Joe Biden's decision to let Ukraine strike targets inside Russia with U.S.-supplied longer-range missiles.

The signing of the doctrine, which says that any massive aerial attack on Russia could trigger a nuclear response, demonstrates Mr. Putin's readiness to tap the country's nuclear arsenal to force the West to back down as Moscow presses a slow-moving offensive in Ukraine.

Asked whether the updated doctrine was deliberately issued on the heels of Mr. Biden's decision, Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said the document was published "in a timely manner" and that Mr. Putin instructed the government to update it earlier this year so that it is "in line with the current situation."



New chapter: The endorsement of the new nuclear deterrent policy comes on the 1,000th day of the Ukraine war. REUTERS

Mr. Putin first announced changes in the nuclear doctrine in September, when he chaired a meeting discussing the proposed revisions.

Russia's President has previously warned the U.S. and other NATO allies that allowing Ukraine to use Western-supplied longer-range weapons to hit Russian territory would mean that Russia and NATO are at war.

'Critical threat'

The updated doctrine states that an attack against Russia by a non-nuclear power with the "participation or support of a nuclear power" will be seen as their "joint attack on the Russian Federation".

It adds that Russia could use nuclear weapons in response to a nuclear strike or a conventional attack posing a "critical threat to sovereignty and territorial integrity" of Russia and its ally Belarus, a vague formulation that leaves broad room for interpretation.

It does not specify whether such an attack would necessarily trigger a nuclear response. It mentions the "uncertainty of scale, time and place of possible use of nuclear deterrent" among the key principles of the nuclear deterrence.

The document also notes that an aggression against Russia by a member of a military bloc or coalition is viewed as "an aggression by the entire bloc," a clear reference to NATO.

At the same time, it spells out conditions for using nuclear weapons in greater detail compared with previous versions of the doctrine, noting they could be used in case of a massive air attack involving ballistic and cruise missiles, aircraft, drones and other flying vehicles.

Ukraine fires U.S. long-range missiles into Russia

Agence France-Presse
KYIV

Ukraine said on Tuesday it had fired U.S.-supplied long-range missiles into Russian territory in the first such strike, as Russia declared a "new phase" in the conflict and eased its protocol for nuclear strikes.

A senior official said that a strike on Russia's Bryansk region earlier on Tuesday "was carried out by ATACMS missiles" – a reference to the U.S.-supplied Army Tactical Missile System.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov criticised Washington's decision to authorise Kyiv to use such missiles.

Sri Lanka's Dissanayake to visit India mid-December

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, who assumed office in September, will undertake his first state visit abroad to India mid-December, Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath has said.

Mr. Herath made the remark to local media on Monday, soon after President Dissanayake installed Sri Lanka's new Cabinet following his party's big win in the November 14 general elections. A date is yet to be fixed for the visit. Colombo and New Delhi are in the process of working out a mutually convenient schedule, sources said.

Anura Kumara Dissanayake

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar visited Sri Lanka early in October and extended Prime Minister Narendra Modi's invitation to the President. Mr. Dissanayake's interim government reportedly conveyed that high-level visits would be considered after the conclusion of the parliamentary polls. The ruling National People's Power has won a historic mandate, securing more than a two-thirds majority.

Meanwhile, the Chinese Ambassador to Sri Lanka has undertaken a visit to Jaffna on Tuesday. Responding to a question from local media on President Dissanayake's visit to India, Ambassador Qi Zhenhong said he saw Mr. Herath's media remark about it. "We are very glad to see this development because India and Sri Lanka are close neighbours. When the two countries enhance their relationship and promote their economic cooperation, they can deliver benefits to two peoples," he told reporters at the Jaffna Press Club. China, too, has invited Mr. Dissanayake to Beijing at his convenience, he said.

Hong Kong jails 45 democracy campaigners

Agence France-Presse
HONG KONG

A Hong Kong court on Tuesday jailed all 45 defendants convicted of subversion in the city's largest national security trial, with "mastermind" Benny Tai receiving the longest term of 10 years.

International condemnation was swift, with Western countries and rights groups slamming the sentencing as evidence of the erosion of political freedoms in the city since Beijing imposed a security law in 2020.

Mr. Tai's sentence was the longest yet handed out under the law, which was brought in to quash dissent after massive pro-democracy protests in 2019. His 44 co-defendants were sentenced to shorter terms beginning from four years and two months.

All were charged with subversion after holding an informal poll in 2020 as part of a strategy to win a pro-democracy electoral majority.

'Over 200 children killed in Lebanon in less than 2 months'

Agence France-Presse
GENEVA

The UN said on Tuesday that over 200 children have been killed in Lebanon in the less than two months since Israel escalated its attacks targeting Hezbollah.

"Despite more than 200 children killed in Lebanon in less than two months, a disconcerting pattern has emerged: their deaths are met with inertia from those able to stop this violence," James Elder, spokesperson for the UN children's agency, UNICEF, told presspersons in Geneva.

"Over the last two months in Lebanon, an average of three children have been killed every single day," he said.

"Many, many more have been injured and traumatised," he added, highlighting that in the past two months, more than 1,100 children had been hurt in the violence.

Second Baltic Sea telecom cable damaged, says Sweden

Agence France-Presse
STOCKHOLM

Germany and Finland said they launched a probe into damage, warning of the threat of 'hybrid warfare'

A Swedish government minister said on Tuesday that the country was investigating a damaged telecommunications undersea cable linking Lithuania and Sweden, a day after the announcement that a cable linking Finland and Germany was cut in what Berlin considers "sabotage".

Minister for Civil Defence Carl-Oskar Bohlin said in a written statement that it was "crucial to clarify why we currently have two cables in the Baltic Sea that are not working".

Mr. Bohlin added that "relevant Swedish authorities are investigating the events".

The "Arelion" submarine cable between the Swedish island of Gotland and Lithuania has been damaged since Sunday morning, a spokesperson for the Lithuanian branch of the operator Telia said on Tuesday.

Internet traffic has been redirected to other international links, Audrius Stasiulaitis said.

On Monday, Finnish operator Cinia reported that a cable connecting Helsinki and the German port of Rostock had been cut for unknown reasons.

Germany and Finland subsequently said they had launched a probe into the damage, warning of the threat of "hybrid warfare".

Dhaka University opens up for Pakistani students

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Dhaka University, the largest educational institution of Bangladesh, has lifted a ban on admitting Pakistani students. Pro Vice Chancellor Sayema Haque Bidisha said the decision was taken on November 13 during a syndicate meeting, which was chaired by Vice-Chancellor Niaz Ahmad Khan. The decision assumes significance in the backdrop of broadening dialogue between the Pakistani authorities and the interim government of Bangladesh.

As per the new revised policy, Pakistani students will be able to seek admission in Dhaka University and Bangladeshi students will also be able to pursue courses in Pakistan. "At one point, ties with Pakistan were cut, but Dhaka University is an academic institution. Many of our students need to visit Pakistan for scholarships or academic conferences. We resolved this issue through discussion to restore normal relations," Prof. Bidisha was quoted as saying in *Dhaka Tribune*.

Dhaka University has played a unique role in the history of Bangladesh as the seedbed for many protest movements against the rulers of Bangladesh. Most recently, in July-August 2024, it was in Dhaka University's campus where the protest against ex-Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina started before spreading across the country.

Creating history: Students scuffle with police during a protest in Dhaka in July 2024. AFP

The role of Dhaka University as the birth place for anti-Pakistan movement was in focus during the Hasina years when a popular demand grew for an apology from Pakistan for its role in the 1971 genocide in East Pakistan. As a result of this movement for accountability of Pakistan in the atrocities of 1971, a decision was taken in December 2015 to stop the flow of Pakistani students to Dhaka University.

The November 13 decision has reversed that ban though Pakistan has not apologised or acknowledged that its armed forces participated in the genocide in East Pakistan in 1971.

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LEADING THE DEBATE SINCE 1984
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Central Office: 763, Anna Salai, Chennai – 600 002
Indian Overseas bank (IOB) invites bids for the following:
GOVERNMENT E-MARKET PORTAL-ENGAGEMENT OF AGENCY FOR MANAGING BANKS DIGITAL MARKETING INITIATIVES
BID NO: GEM/2024/B/5614082 DATED: 16.11.2024
The Above GEM Tender document is also available and can be downloaded from the following websites www.iob.in & www.gem.gov.in For Tender details and future amendments, if any, keep referring to the following website www.gem.gov.in

उत्तराखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लि.
UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED.
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking)
Victoria Cross Vijeta Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road, Dehradun, Ph. No. : 0135-2762444, Fax : 0135-2763839
Corporate Identity No. U40109UR2001SGCO25867/2358, E-mail ID: cgmupcl@yahoo.co.in, Website : www.upcl.org

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited is engaged in the distribution of electricity and as part of this endeavor, the Utility has decided to procure electricity on a long term basis from a Power Station through Public-Private Partnership on Design, Build, Finance, Own and Operate basis by sourcing fuel, and has, therefore decided to carry out the Building Process for selection of a corporate entity(ies) as the Bidder to whom the contract may be awarded for production of electricity and supply thereof as per the terms and conditions specified in the Bidding Documents as per Ministry of Power, Government of India guidelines dated 20th Oct-2022 and its amendment from time to time against Tender Specification No. 19/CE(COMM)/UPCL-19/LTPP/2024.

Partial particulars of the project are as follows:

Capacity Required (in MW)	Minimum Capacity Offered (in MW)	Supply Commencement Date	Period of Supply
300	75	270 days from signing of the PSA-DBFOO (Supply Commencement Date)	20 years from the Supply Commencement Date

Event description are as under:-

S.No.	Event	Date & Time
1.	Last date for receiving queries	23.12.2024 at 17:00 Hrs
2.	Pre-Application Conference-1	15.01.2024 at 15:00 Hrs
3.	Utility response to queries latest by	To be specified later
4.	Application due date	To be specified later
5.	Announcement of Pre-qualified Applications	To be specified later
6.	Letter of Award (LOA)	Within 30 days of Bid due date
7.	Validity of Bids	120 days from Bid Due Date
8.	Signing of PSA-DBFOO	Within 30 days of issue of LOA
Hard Copy of B.G./proof of EMD should reach in the office of SE (Commercial), UPCL on or before the due date of application.		

All other terms and conditions shall remain as per bid document of **Tender No. 19/CE(COMM)/UPCL-19/LTPP/2024.**

UPCL reserve the right to unilaterally reject the bid at any stage of the processing of the tender if any declaration submitted by the bidder is found false/incorrect/misrepresented.
The documents will be issued to the bidders only through e-tender i.e. ***(www.mstcecommerce.com)***. E-tenders will be received and opened on the dates as mentioned above. In case the above date is holiday, the tenders will be received & opened on the next working day at same time. The undersigned reserves the right to refuse to issue the tender documents to any applicant and also to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof and no claim on this account shall be acceptable. **The tenders received after the date & time mentioned above shall not be considered**. Bid will be submitted on (www.mstcecommerce.com) only and hard copy of technical bid will also be submitted to the office of SE (Commercial), UPCL. All other details and terms & conditions are available in tender document. For any assistance on E-tendering, please contact on telephone number 011-23217850

No. 627/1/EE(CM)/UPCL/A-2 Dt.: 18-11-2024
Chief Engineer (COMMERCIAL)

"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATIONS" Use LED Bulbs, Save Electricity. (Toll Free No. 1912) "Pay Electricity bill online 24x7 from www.upcl.org". (For information on Electricity Theft, informer may report to Toll Free No. 18001804185 / Fax: 0135-2760911)

FAVOURITE ONE

Perth century my best knock in Australia, reveals Kohli

REUTERS

India's star batter Virat Kohli reflected on his best knock in Australia, identifying his century during the 2018/19 series as his favourite. "My best knock in Australia is definitely my century at Perth. I thought that was the toughest pitch I played on. It was great to get a 100 on that wicket," Kohli told BCCI.

RARING TO GO

Subtle change in batting stance helping keeper-batter Carey

AP

A subtle adjustment to his batting stance has proven to be the catalyst that has propelled Australia wicketkeeper batter Alex Carey into the form of his life as he heads into the Border-Gavaskar Trophy against India. "It's only slight, but at the moment, it feels like I'm in a good position and reacting pretty well to the ball," Carey said.

TOUGH TEAM

Can't underestimate India, says Australia's Labuschagne

FILE PHOTO: SANDEEP SAXENA

A shattering defeat to New Zealand on home soil would have caused a "little bit of damage" to India's confidence but Australia will not make the mistake of underestimating the visitors, batter Marnus Labuschagne said Tuesday. "They're a quality line-up... So you can never underestimate a team like that," he said.

GRIPPING

Paltan and Yoddhas play out hard-fought draw

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The contest between Puneri Paltan and UP Yoddhas ended in a stalemate (29-29) in a Pro Kabaddi League match at the Noida Indoor Stadium on Monday. Bhavani Rajput registered a Super 10 for the UP Yoddhas while Pankaj Mohite scored nine points for the Puneri Paltan. Later, Patna Pirates beat Bengaluru Bulls 54-31.

India huffs and puffs its way past a dogged Japan

An inspired goalkeeper Kudo — named Player-of-the-Match — keeps out a string of PCs from the hosts, who were also guilty of being erratic and off-target; China fends off Malaysia's challenge to also enter the title clash

ASIAN CT

Uthra Ganesan
RAJGIR

Ecstatic: Lalremsiami, centre, celebrates scoring India's second goal against Japan. R.V. MOORTHY

It took a 47th minute penalty stroke for the vastly experienced India to finally find a way past Japanese goalkeeper Yu Kudo and break the deadlock before registering a 2-0 win in the semifinal of the Asian Champions Trophy at the Rajgir Sports Complex here on Monday.

The host will now take on China in the final while Japan will face-off against Malaysia for the third place.

But coach Harendra Singh and his girls will have to come up with a much better performance in less than 24 hours if they hope to retain the title.

Against a largely inexperienced Japan, the Indians were underwhelming, erratic and off-target.

At other times, they were up against Kudo, a veteran of five matches before this game. Not surprisingly, she was named Player-of-the-Match.

Japan was expected to pack its defence and hope for space in the middle to take chances on counter-attacks and it did.

India was expected to be on the attack and keep the pressure on its rival and it did, starting as early as the 5th minute when Deepika's shot went straight to Kudo. That was the beginning of India's struggles and Kudo's brilliance.

Missing the PCs

India's first penalty corner came in the 11th minute but Navneet's slap bounced away off a defender's stick. India earned 16 PCs through the game without success. Half of them were variations but to no avail.

"India kept changing their PC set-up every time, there were subtle variations. But we managed to read them and save, which makes me happy," a smiling Kudo, who idolises Savita and former England goalkeeper Maddie Hinch, admitted after the game.

No gameplan worked; none could against a side that had parked the bus inside its 23-yard region and refused to either attempt an attack or give any space.

The Indian strikers kept switching flanks, entered from either side, hugged the back line to shake off their markers, tried to snatch and tap in in goalmouth melees – nothing worked. Harendra admitted Kudo had been the difference between just a win and half-a-dozen goals.

Breaking the deadlock

It was finally the slightest of shoulder pushes from Junon Kawai to Deepika just inside the circle that resulted in the stroke and Navneet made no mistake.

In the 56th minute, Sunelita Toppo – impressive all day with her nippy runs and pinpoint passes – finally dodged past a handful of defenders, controlling the ball along the backline and putting through to an unmarked Lalremsiami, who managed to put it into the net through the smallest of windows.

Japan had a grand total of four circle entries, one of which resulted in a PC in the 57th minute with Kudo finally off the field but couldn't convert as the Indians, knowing they had been made to work hard for the victory, barely celebrated.

In the other semifinal, China rode on an early lead to resist repeated pressure from Malaysia and win 3-1. Korea, meanwhile, finished fifth with a 3-0 win against Thailand.

The results:

5-6 playoff: Korea 3 (Minjeong Kim 14, Yuri Lee 35, Seoyeon Park 45) bt Thailand 0.

Semifinals: China 3 (Quichan Deng 10, Yuxia Fan 17, Jinzhuang Tan 23) bt Malaysia 1 (Khairunnisa Mohd 36); India 2 (Navneet Kaur 47, Lalremsiami 56) bt Japan 0.

On its knees: The Indian team failed to win a game in 2024. NAGARA GOPAL

Marquez sees hope at the end of a dismal year

FOOTBALL

Amitabha Das Sharma
HYDERABAD

With six losses and five draws to its credit, India failed to get going through the year

A delightful header by Rahul Bheke off a nicely set corner from Brandon Fernandes fetched the equaliser that helped India hold the visiting Malaysia to a 1-1 draw and ensure that the senior men's National football team did not suffer another loss.

With six losses and five draws to its credit, India finished the year without a win.

What started as a season of promise turned bleak by the end of the year for India.

Drop in rankings

With its FIFA ranking at a creditable 99 at the end of 2023, India dropped to 125 ahead of its meeting against Malaysia.

Starting in January, India lost all the Asian Cup main draw matches and then failed to qualify for the third round of 2026 World Cup qualifiers. This drastic fall saw the exit of the Croatian World Cupper Igor Stimac and the arrival of Spain's Manolo Marquez as his replacement.

The draw against Malaysia was the fourth game under Marquez. The India coach has to his credit three draws and a loss.

This winless record came to haunt the national side exactly after a decade. It last happened in 2014 when the Blue Tigers played two matches without any success.

"We are disappointed that we could not win in the last few matches but I am hopeful that we will win the moment when we need to win," Marquez said after the Malaysia match.

The Spanish gaffer was referring to the National team's next big target, which is qualifying for the 2027 Asian Cup.

"We have four months for the qualifiers. I know it has been a while since the national team won a game but I am completely sure that it will qualify for the Asian Cup in 2027," Marquez said.

Having tried various combinations in a bid to find the right balance in the squad, Marquez said India is gradually adapting to the style he wants to play.

"There is improvement. The team is beginning to understand the kind of football we want to play," Marquez said while looking ahead to the Asian Cup qualifiers scheduled to start in the final week of March 2025.

'Impossible-to-face' Bumrah is India's 'X-factor': Head

INDIA IN AUS

Press Trust of India
PERTH

On the prowl: Bumrah has been a tricky bowler for several batters. FILE PHOTO: SANDEEP SAXENA

Dubbed as the bowler "impossible-to-face" by swashbuckling Australian batter Travis Head and a "cat burglar" by former tearaway pacer Brett Lee, Jasprit Bumrah's reputation precedes him.

The 30-year-old pacer, who is set to captain India in the first Test of the five-match series starting here on Friday, has left both past and present Australian players in awe of his skill and threat.

On his two previous Test tours of Australia, he took 32 wickets at an average of 21.25, including a match-winning six for 33 during the 2018 Boxing Day Test.

Since the start of the 20th century, only two touring bowlers have taken more wickets in Australia at a lower average – Richard Hadlee and Curtly Ambrose.

"Impossible (to face). You try to feel like you're one step ahead, but it always feels like he's that next step," Head told *Fox Cricket*. "Any format of the game, he's incredible. He's their X-factor, he's the guy they go to every time, and more often than not, he's able to produce for them.

"He (Bumrah) creeps in like a cat burglar," pace legend Lee said in a lighter vein.

Smart to avoid confrontations with Kohli, says Watson

Press Trust of India
PERTH

Different beast: Watson feels Kohli thrives on being intense. GETTY IMAGES

Former all-rounder Shane Watson has advised the Australian team to avoid getting into confrontations with Virat Kohli in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy as he feels the intensity the celebrated Indian batter derives from provocations brings the best out of him.

Provoking the Indian batting mainstay has often proved to be counterproductive for the Australians, and Watson has experienced it himself.

"The one thing that I know of Virat is... because the fire burns so brightly and deep inside him, the intensity he brings to every ball that he is engaged in a game has been superhuman," Watson was quoted as saying on the *Willow Talk* podcast.

"That is where Australia have to leave him alone and hope he doesn't bring the intensity – nine out of 10 intensity – to every ball."

While this would be his fifth tour Down Under in the longest format, Kohli's best outing came during the 2014-15 series when he aggregated 692 runs in four Tests at an average of 86.50, including four hundreds and a half-century.

These remarkable numbers are not lost on Watson.

"We have seen that when he has had success in Australia, he is up and above for everything in the middle.

"Every ball he is up for every single moment. You can see the fierce intensity that he brings, and if he gets that, then it shuts everything else out. That is when he is at his absolute best.

"If there is stuff happening around and that intensity is not there, that is when you will see the not-so-best version of Virat.

"So from an Australian perspective, let's hope we get to see that version of him," Watson said.

QUICK SINGLES

Shafali dropped for ODI series in Australia

Top-order batter Shafali Verma was on Tuesday dropped from India's 16-member women's team for the three-match ODI series in Australia in December after a string of poor performances in the past year.

Uma Chetry, Dayalan Hemalatha, Shreyanka Patil and Sayali Satghare were also left out from the squad that played in India's 2-1 home series win against New Zealand in Ahmedabad last month.

Harleen Deol, Richa Ghosh, Minnu Mani, Titas Sadhu and Priya Punia, who did not play against New Zealand, were named in the team.

The squad: Harmanpreet Kaur (Capt.), Smriti Mandhana (vice-capt.), Priya Punia, Jemimah Rodrigues, Harleen Deol, Yastika Bhatia (wk), Richa Ghosh (wk), Tejal Hasabnis, Deepti Sharma, Minnu Mani, Priya Mishra, Radha Yadav, Titas Sadhu, Arundhati Reddy, Renuka Singh Thakur and Saima Thakor.

Harleen. FILE PHOTO

Coetzee reprimanded for dissent

South African pacer Gerald Coetzee has been reprimanded, for making an inappropriate comment to the umpire after a delivery was called 'wide', during the fourth T20 International against India in Johannesburg, the ICC said on Tuesday.

INBRIEF

Dhananjaya to lead SL in Test series against SA

Dhananjaya de Silva will lead Sri Lanka in a two-match Test series away against South Africa later this month, it was announced on Tuesday.

The squad: Dhananjaya de Silva (capt.), Pathum Nissanka, Dimuth Karunaratne, Dinesh Chandimal, Angelo Mathews, Kusal Mendis, Kamindu Mendis, Oshada Fernando, Sadeera Samarawickrama, Prabath Jayasuriya, Nishan Peiris, Lasith Embuldeniya, Milan Rathnayake, Asitha Fernando, Vishwa Fernando, Lahiru Kumara, and Kasun Rajitha.

Rain plays spoilsport in final SL-NZ ODI

The third ODI between New Zealand and Sri Lanka on Tuesday was abandoned after only 21 overs of play due to rain in Pallekele. An 88-run stand for the second wicket between Will Young and Henry Nicholls propelled it to 112 for one.

Gvardiol ensures Croatia reaches quarterfinals

Josko Gvardiol continued his scoring streak to earn Croatia a 1-1 home draw with Portugal on Monday that allowed it to squeak into the Nations League quarterfinals. In Group A4, Spain, already assured of qualification, beat last-placed Switzerland 3-2 in a match of penalty kicks in Tenerife. Scotland goes into a play-off to save its League A status. Poland is relegated.

Important results: League A: Group 1: Croatia 1 (Gvardiol 65) drew with Portugal 1 (Felix 33); Poland 1 (Piatkowski 59) lost to Scotland 2 (McGinn 3, Robertson 90+3).
A4: Spain 3 (Pino 32, Gil 68, Zaragoza 90+3-pen) bt Switzerland 2 (Monteiro 63, Zeqiri 85-pen); Serbia 0 drew with Denmark 0.

Anupama stuns Zhang; Sumeet-Sikki also advance

Anupama Upadhyaya recorded a 21-17, 8-21, 22-20 win over World No. 15 American Beiwen Zhang to progress to the women's second round at the China Masters Super 750 badminton tournament in Shenzhen on Tuesday. B. Sumeeth Reddy and N. Sikki Reddy made the mixed doubles second round but it was curtains for Priyanshu Rajawat in opening round.

The results: First round: Women: Anupama Upadhyaya bt Beiwen Zhang (USA) 21-17, 8-21, 22-20; Tomoka Miyazaki (Jpn) bt Aakarshi Kashyap 21-10, 21-18.
Men: Chico Aura Dwi Wardoyo (Ina) bt Priyanshu Rajawat 22-24, 21-13, 21-18. **Mixed doubles:** B. Sumeeth Reddy & N. Sikki Reddy bt Presley Smith & Jennie Gai (USA) 23-21, 17-21, 21-17.

LIVE TELECAST

Badminton: China Masters, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & JioCinema, 6.30 a.m.

Hockey: Women's ACT, Sony Sports Ten 1 (SD & HD) & LIV, 2.15 & 4.45 p.m.

Tennis: Davis Cup final, Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 4.30 p.m.

PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 8 p.m.

'Gukesh is favourite but not to the extent most seem to believe'

Russian GM Dubov says it is remarkable that the Indian is contesting the World championship match at the age of 18; praises his style of play

CHESS

P.K. Ajith Kumar

Daniil Dubov was Magnus Carlsen's second for the World chess championship twice. So he has watched from the closest of quarters how a World title match takes shape.

Dubov, a former World rapid chess champion, believes, like most people, that D. Gukesh starts as the favourite in the match against Ding Liren, starting in Singapore on November 25. "I think Gukesh is the favourite but not to the extent many people seem to believe," the Russian Grandmaster told *The Hindu* in Kolkata, where he competed in the Tata Steel Chess India tournament.

"I want to see them fight and don't want a match that gets over with three or four games to finish."

He feels it is remarkable that Gukesh is contesting the World title match when he is just 18.

"When Gukesh is at his best, he only plays the best moves, just like a chess engine," says Dubov. "He plays the way that is sort of difficult to explain. There is seemingly no basic idea behind them, but they are all the best. And that is the feeling that you normally get from an engine."

Looking back at his experience of working as a second - a kind of sparring partner who brings inputs for the match - Dubov said he was glad that he got an opportunity to work with Carlsen, one of the all-time greats in chess. "Magnus had a team of, like, four to five people, and we would basically have to prepare some opening ideas," he says.

"I was one of the people responsible for making his openings better. Apparently I was doing my job well, as I was invited the second time. I took up the offer to work with Carlsen because I thought I could learn from his game, and I did."

He, however, feels the importance of a second in a World title match is becoming less because of chess engines.

"When I worked for Magnus, especially for the first time, it used to be completely different," he says.

"You could analyse a certain position for, like, two weeks, and still you wouldn't be sure if it is good or bad for you."

Dubov has enjoyed playing in India. "Chess in India now reminds me of the old saying about the former Soviet Union - Every random guy plays better than you when you come to the USSR," he says. "Now it is the same with India."

Like a master: Former World rapid champion Dubov says when Gukesh is at his best, he plays the best moves. FILE PHOTO

Anderson could be the most significant IPL signing since Warne

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

Like everybody else, cricket writers are allowed to have heroes too. Over the years there has been something both heroic and minimalist about Jimmy Anderson that I have found fascinating. Skill in a person who finished with 704 Test wickets, more than any other fast bowler, is a given. The aggression often appeared put on, and in fact was honed through sessions with a psychologist.

There have been few sights more rewarding than watching Anderson bowl. He lacked the ferocity of the great West Indies fast bowlers. Nor did he have the metronomic efficiency of Glenn McGrath where evenness meant everything. Anderson had grace and elegance, and remarkable control over swing, effective even in Indian conditions. He said he learnt reverse swing from Zaheer Khan, and once admitted when commentators praised his wobble swing bowling that he was unsure which way the ball would go. Top sportsmen don't make such confessions. It was refreshing.

And now here he comes, all of 43 next year, to prove that he still has it in him despite not playing T20 cricket for over a decade. Mahendra Singh Dhoni is a year older, so Anderson will not be the oldest in the IPL. Whichever franchise chooses him will know he plays a dual role, as performer and inspiration.

Anderson could be the most significant IPL signing since Shane Warne was picked by Rajasthan Royals to play, lead, and mentor and had such a profound impact on the team, on the players, perhaps on the format itself. Warne was 39 in that inaugural season Rajasthan Royals won, and had retired from international cricket two years earlier.

Sharing a dressing room and even competition time with someone like Anderson means that certain skills and attitudes will be absorbed by those around him if not consciously then through a process of cricketing osmosis.

After over two decades of international cricket, some more cricket may not be what the doctor ordered. But you cannot but admire a man so obsessed with the sport that he will play on and on. When he is done with professional cricket, he will continue to play for his club Burnley, and when that chapter ends, he will play pick-up games in the park and bowl to his grandchildren in his garden, maybe even give his great grand children throwdowns in the dining room at home.

I have known only one international cricketer like that – Shivnarine Chanderpaul of the West Indies. I met him in the US where he was on vacation, playing cricket! "So you play cricket professionally, and then when you want a break, you play some more cricket?" I asked him. "Yes," he answered simply.

Anderson's first autobiography was titled: *Bowl. Sleep. Repeat*. Someone made the point that since Anderson probably bowls in his sleep too, that title had one word too many.

In his recent book *Finding the Edge*, Anderson describes how he walked into a Manchester hotel to meet the trio of captain, coach and England cricket supremo: "As I walk towards them, it hits me cold. This isn't a team appraisal, is it? With each footstep towards the far side of the bar, each of their distinct silhouettes coming into view, the tram journey just gone is suddenly like a blissful past life, the outdoor sun sucked into a horizonless neon-red darkness."

He says later: "My brain is doing the maths and my heart is sinking as I go to shake their hands. I feel like Joe Pesci in *Goodfellas*, ushered into a room under the impression that I'm going to get made, only to be shot. You f-----. They're going to tell me something I don't want to be told, aren't they? Something I've been swerving, darting, shapeshifting, bowling through for my whole life."

That gives us a clue to Anderson's motives. This smoothest of fast bowlers who seems to run up, bowl, bend, field tell the batter off, walk back and start again, all in one motion is merely playing himself. He is told to retire, does so, writes a book, and prepares to play a format he has shunned, all in one motion.

1 As Joe Pesci said in *With Honors*, "A winner forgets he's in a race, he just loves to run."

Nadal loses opener; Federer pays tribute

DAVIS CUP FINALS

Agence France-Presse
MALAGA

Retiring tennis superstar Rafael Nadal lost 6-4, 6-4 to Botic van de Zandschulp in a Davis Cup quarterfinal singles rubber on Tuesday as the Netherlands took a 1-0 lead against Spain.

The 22-time Grand Slam winner will call time on his career in professional tennis at the end of Spain's participation in the tournament.

Earlier, tennis great Roger Federer hailed his former rival Nadal. "Rafa, I have to say: What an incredible run you've had. Including 14 French Opens -- historic!" Federer posted on X.

"You made Spain proud... you made the whole tennis world proud."

Nadal and Federer. FILE PHOTO

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

Aneesh, Pravin added to Karnataka's SMAT squad

BENGALURU: Devdutt Padikkal, who is with the Indian Test team in Australia, will miss Karnataka's Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy campaign. The updated Karnataka squad list does not include Padikkal, and has two additions in batter K.V. Aneesh and spinner Pravin Dubey.

The rest of the squad remains unchanged. The tournament commences on November 23.

The squad: Mayank Agarwal (Capt.), Manish Pandey (vice-Capt.), Abhinav Manohar, Shreyas Gopal, R. Smaran, K.L. Shrijith, V. Vyshak, Macneil Noronha, V. Koushik, Manoj Bhandage, Vidyadhar Patil, L.R. Chethan, Shubhang Hegde, Manvanth Kumar, K.V. Aneesh, Pravin Dubey. **Coach:** Yere Goud; **Bowling coach:** Mansur Ali Khan; **Fielding coach:** Shabarish Mohan.

Anil cracks century

Anil Kumar's 136 powered Merchants CC (1) past Eleven Brothers CC in the quarterfinals of the KSCA Y.S. Ramaswamy Memorial Trophy.

The scores: Quarterfinals: YFA 209/4 in 22 overs (Gaurav Singh 94, Satyendra Sahu 37, Rajesh 29) bt Ranji 181/8 in 22 overs (Pranav 39, Yashas 49). Overs reduced due to wet outfield.

Spartans 283/9 in 50 overs (Sagar 44, Ashok 104, Yallapa 31, Vasanth 3/32) bt Crescent (1) 208 in 44.4 overs (Koushik 44, Akshay 34, Ajith 45, Karthik 30, Muttallib 3/42, Mani 3/29).

Yankees 274/6 in 38 overs (Assad 56, Sachin 77, Anurag Bajaai 79, Atheek 29, Arjun Gowda 3/45) bt Citizen Cultural 271/8 in 38 overs (Ravi 61, Vishnu 109, Preran 41, Omkar 3/43, Anurag Bajpai 3/40). Overs reduced due to wet outfield.

Merchants (1) 241 in 50 overs (Anil Kumar 136, Vinod Kumar 27, Samarth Hegde 4/48) bt Eleven Brothers 159 in 42.1 overs (Rishit Negi 63, Saif 28).

Triumphant: Mysore, which won the 4x100m girls' relay gold in the third Mini Olympics in Bengaluru. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Mysore, DK win 4x100m relays

Mysore (53.4s) claimed the gold medal of the 4x100m girls' relay in the third Mini Olympics. Dakshin Kannada (49.2s) won the 4x100m boys' relay.

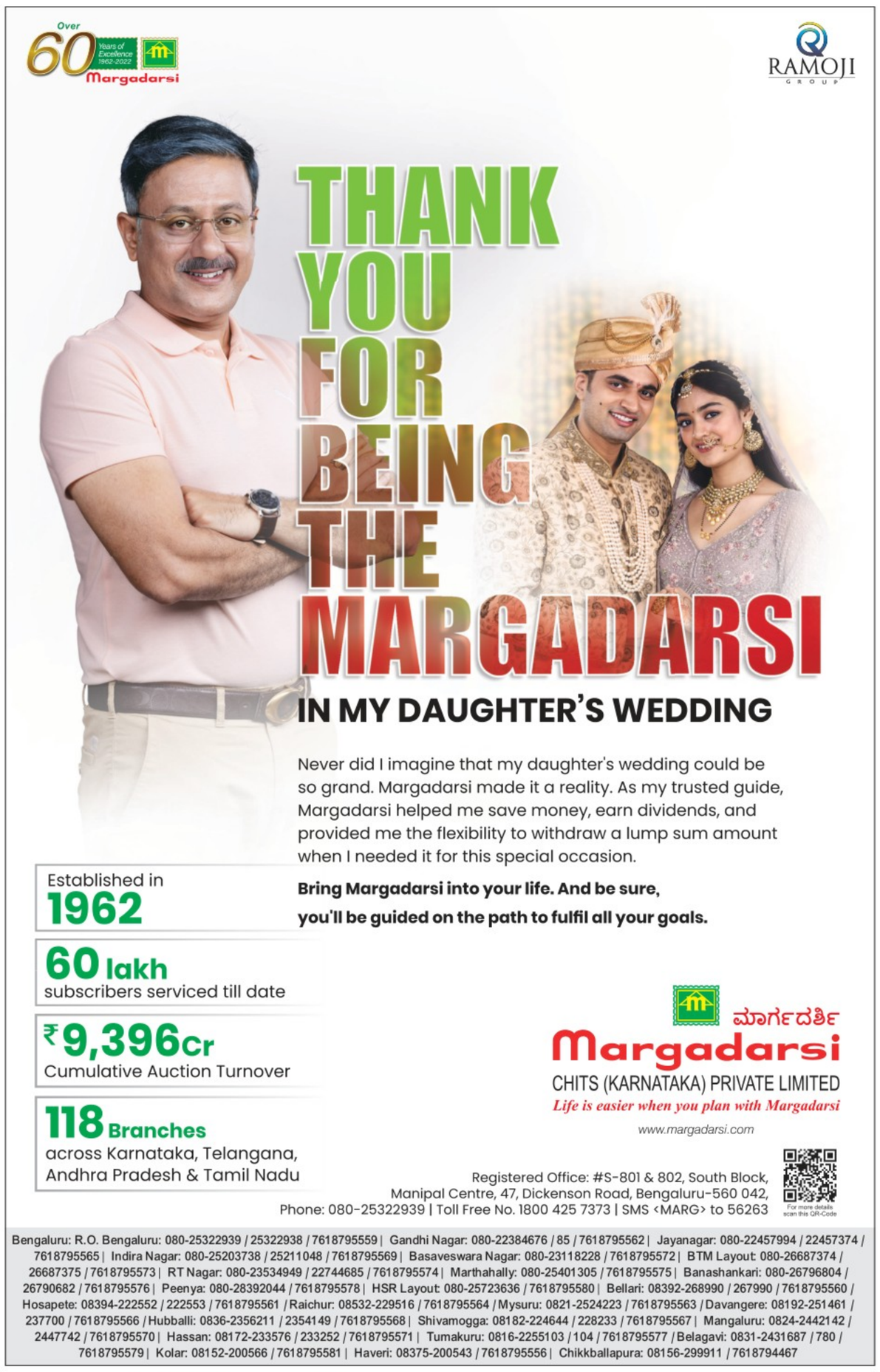
Dev Javia beats Manish Ganesh

KALABURAGI: Dev Javia outclassed Manish Ganesh 6-4, 6-3 in the first round of the ITF Kalaburagi Open tennis tournament at the Chandrashekhar Patil Stadium courts.

In another encounter, qualifier Dheeraj Kodancha Srinivasan went past Jang Yunseok, who retired on medical grounds.

Dheeraj went past Yunseok, who retired on medical grounds.

The results (Indians unless mentioned): First round: Dev Javia bt Manish Ganesh 6-4, 6-3; Manish Sureshkumar bt Siddhant Bhantia 7-6(4), 6-4; Dheeraj Kodancha Srinivasan bt Jang Yunseok (Kor) 6-0, 3-4 (retd.).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